- **SPORTS / A27** Podsednik homer lifts White Sox over Astros
- **METRO / A23** MMDA to junk traffic ticket scheme, revert to TVRs
- **ACROSS / A18** Log ban now in force in 15 regions
- **WORLD / A12** No survivors in Nigeria air crash

Declare presidency vacant, SC urged

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr. and Leila B. Salaverria

CALLS FOR A SNAP ELECTION have stirred Joseph Estrada's dream of ruling the country once again, and sent failed presiden-

DECLARE/ A11

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

CHR says no legal basis for CPR, Mendiola ban

By Leila B. Salaverria and Tina G. Santos

THE ARROYO ADMINISTRATION'S BAN ON demonstrations on Chino Roces Bridge, popularly known as Mendiola, has no justification in law, according to the Commission on Human Rights.

But police officials do not quite agree. They

CHR SAYS/ A10

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Tuesday, October 25, 2005 ★★ 3 sections / Vol. 20 / No. 319 P18 website: www.inq7.net

GMA: No to snap polls, yes to coalition gov't

President discussed issue with Bro. Mike

By Juliet Labog-Javellana, Christine O. Avendaño and Cynthia D. Balana

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo has rejected proposals that she cut short her term to pave the way for the holding of snap elections in 2007, but she is now open to giving the opposition seats in her Cabinet, the INQUIRER learned yesterday.

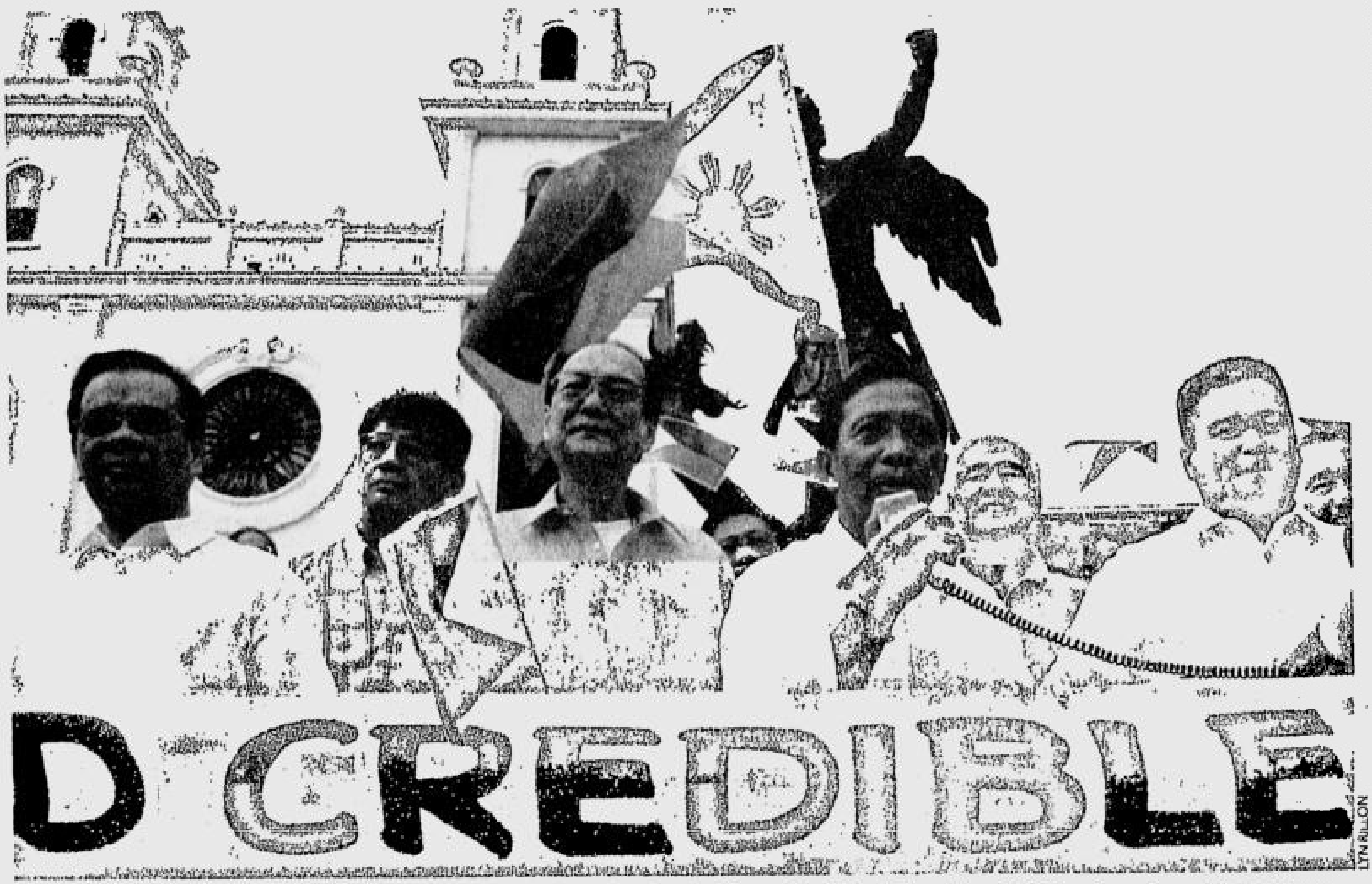
Ms Arroyo has been meeting quietly with El Shaddai leader Bro. Mike Velarde and Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal to look for a "way out" of the political crisis brought on by questions of the legitimacy of her presidency, according to two people familiar with the recent meetings.

Velarde and Vidal are reportedly pushing for the holding of a special election in 2007 through an amendment to the Constitution. But in a statement released by the Cebu Archdiocese, Vidal distanced himself from the proposal. *(See story on Page A8.)*

The Black and White Movement (BWM) has presented another proposal calling on Vice President Noli de Castro to serve as "transition president" until a special election is held, also in 2007.

The group, which includes former Cabinet secretaries known as the Hyatt 10, gave De Castro until Nov. 30 to withdraw support from Ms Arroyo and to accept the proposal to take over the government

GMA: NO/ A8



LYN RILLON

OPPOSITION politicians call for the holding of credible elections after hearing Mass at San Miguel Church beside Malacañang. From left are ex-Sen. Francisco Tatad, former Cabinet Secretary Horacio Morales, ex-Sen. Ernesto Maceda and Mayors Jejomar Binay and JV Ejercito. *(Story on Page A11.)*

Congress cool to call for early election

By TJ Burgonio and Michael Lim Ubac

EXCEPT FOR A FEW STRIDENT critics, initial bipartisan reaction in the House and the Senate yesterday was opposed to a proposal to hold snap elections to resolve the 5-month-old political impasse hounding President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, an administration stalwart, called the proposal a "cockeyed scheme" being pushed by oligarchs. Sen. Panfilo Lacson, a staunch Arroyo critic, basically agreed with her, saying it was "unrealistic.

But Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said the snap election should be done now rather than in 2007 to avert further deterioration of the country's situation. Pimentel said Ms Arroyo and Vice President Noli de Castro should step aside and allow the Senate President to supervise the balloting within 45 days.

"At least the people will have a chance to say who will be the next leader of the nation. And then we can all rally behind him or her, and give the presidency a new chance to run this nation," Pimentel said.

"Amending the Constitution at this time will only give a new lease on the life of Gloria, which is not called for under these circumstances."

CONGRESS/ A8

Inquirer wins 4 Catholic Mass Media Awards

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER last night won four major prizes in this year's Catholic Mass Media Awards.

INQUIRER Business deskperson Tina Arceo-Dumlao and reporter Blanche Rivera won the Best News Coverage award for an article on the departure of Filipino medical professionals for abroad.

Their article bested five other entries, including another one from the INQUIRER.

INQUIRER photographer Edwin Bacasmas' picture, titled "Sea Trader," was adjudged the Best News Photo for print.

Chosen as the Best Comic Strip for print was INQUIRER contributor Elizabeth Chionglo's "Loveknots" and the Best Editorial Cartoon award was won by another INQUIRER contributor, Gilbert Daroy.

The INQUIRER had 22 nominations in nine categories.

Other prizes were to be awarded later in the evening in the ceremonies held at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium at the RCBC Plaza on Ayala Avenue, Makati.

The Archdiocese of Manila established the awards in 1978 for exemplary works by individuals and organizations in television, cinema, radio, and print, advertising, music, the Internet and campus publications.

In a message, Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales said the awards recognized those in the media who stayed committed to doing good and promoting Gospel values.

He quoted the late Pope John Paul II as saying that modern

INQUIRER WINS/ A9

ROMY HOMILLADA

PDI publisher Isagani Yambot (center) shows off the trophies won by Edwin Bacasmas for Best News Photo and Blanche Rivera and Tina Dumlao for Best News Coverage. Other PDI winners were Elizabeth Chionglo (left) for Best Comic Strip and Gilbert Daroy, Best Editorial Cartoon.

hip
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
hip
hinge inquirer
PUBLICATIONS

HIP OFFICIALS shown during the magazines' launch are, from left, Dave Valdes, president; Paolo Prieto, Inquirer Holdings president; Poch Bermudez, SVP-general manager; Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez, chair; Doris Bermudez, sales and event director, and Alex Reyes, SVP-CFO.

REVIEWER
Coffee Country
Swing
Women in Golf
PC
UPGRADE OR START OVER?
mph

JOINT venture's product titles.

Inquirer enters world of magazine publishing

THE INQUIRER GOES HIP.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer has formally entered into a partnership with R828 Inc., creator of m|PH Magazine, Swing, The Reviewer and local franchise holder of PC Magazine. This marks the entry of the country's No. 1 newspaper into the world of magazine publishing.

The joint venture has created Hinge Inquirer Publications or HIP, which hopes to further strengthen the INQUIRER's reputation as one of the country's premier content providers across a wide array of media, and now to include magazines.

The partnership agreement, signed on Oct. 5 at the INQUIRER offices in Makati City, was forged by HIP officials Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez,

INQUIRER/ A9

Show kids you read, parents told

By DJ Yap

BE NOT ASHAMED IF YOU READ only Tagalog romance novels or glossy motoring magazines.

Read where children can see you, and show them how you enjoy each page, each line and each word because reading is a legacy that should be passed on from one generation to the next, according to Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, president of the Ateneo de Manila University.

It's not the material that people read that counts, but the act of and the love for reading itself, Nebres said at the launch of "Programang Kaakbay," a four-day reading education conference for public school teachers, which ended

SHOW KIDS/ A8

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern Luzon will experience cloudy skies with rains, while Mindanao will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY CYRIL L. BONABENTE, PDI RESEARCH/10/25/05

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Court martial for Gudani, aide

THE PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATION of the two Marine officers who defied President Macapagal-Arroyo's order not to testify at a Senate investigation of alleged election fraud has begun, the military announced yesterday.

Military prosecutors were expected to serve the charge sheet to Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani (ret.) and Lt. Col. Alexander Balutan yesterday.

"We'll coordinate with the Senate because they're [Gudani and Balutan] still under Senate custody," said Capt. Candelaria Rivas, a prosecutor at the Armed Forces of the Philippines' Office of the Judge Advocate General.

Rivas said the pre-trial investigation started "once we serve[d] the charge sheet."

Gudani and Balutan are charged with violation of Article of War 65 or "willful disobedience of a superior officer." They have 10 days to reply to the charges.

Should the pre-trial investigator determine there is "probable cause," he would recommend to the AFP chief of staff to convene a general court-martial, Rivas said.

ON THE DOCK. Retired Brigadier General Gudani, right, and Colonel Balutan defied a direct order from the Palace and testified before the Senate on Sept. 28, 2005.

JESS YUSON

The two Marine officers were ordered investigated after they testified before the Senate committee on defense and national security on Sept. 28 despite a ban on doing so by President Arroyo.

The two told the Senate hearing there was an apparent conspiracy to cheat in the President's behalf in the May 2004 elections in Lanao del Sur, where they were assigned at the time.

Gudani, who was then commander of the 1st Marine Brigade and head of Task Force Ranao, said he was suddenly recalled to Manila at the height of the vote canvass.

Balutan, who was a battalion commander, said the Army colonel who temporarily replaced Gudani told him to "slacken" security during the canvassing.

Just before their Senate appearance, Ms Arroyo issued Executive Order 464 barring government and military officials from testifying in Congress without her approval.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga promptly sacked Gudani and Balutan as Philippine Military Academy assistant superintendent and deputy commandant of the cadet corps, respectively, and ordered their court-martial.

Gudani, a member of PMA Class '73, retired on Oct. 4 when he reached the mandatory retirement age of 56.

The AFP has withheld his retirement benefits until the "final resolution of the case filed against him."

Balutan, a member of PMA Class '83, is still bound by EO 464.

In a statement yesterday, the AFP said the case "stemmed from their willful noncompliance to the Chief of Staff's official order to all AFP officers to refrain from appearing in any legislative investigation until further notice."

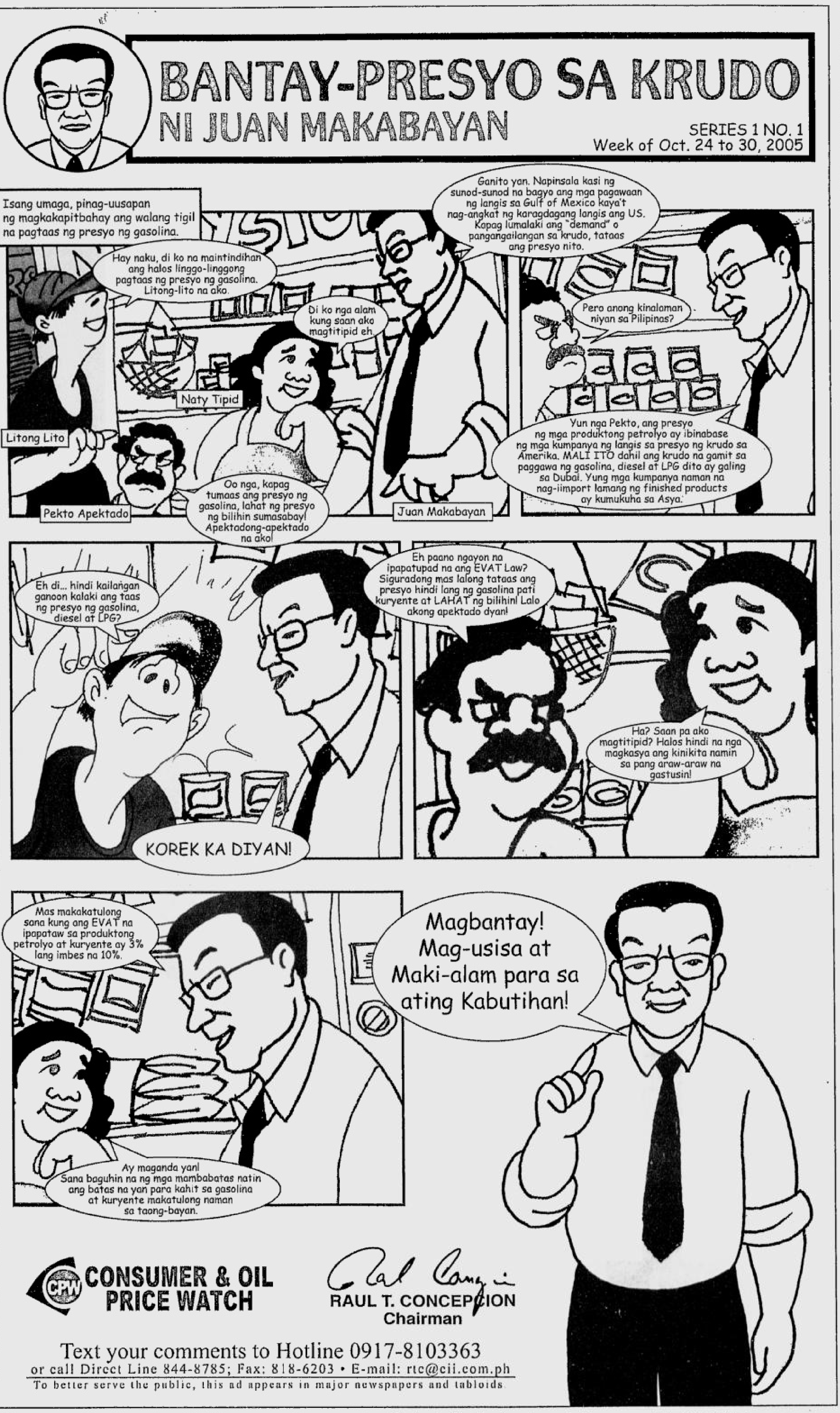
BANTAY-PRESYO SA KRUDO
NI JUAN MAKABAYAN
SERIES 1 NO. 1
Week of Oct. 24 to 30, 2005

CONSUMER & OIL PRICE WATCH

RAUL T. CONCEPCION
Chairman

Text your comments to Hotline 0917-8103363
or call Direct Line 844-8785; Fax: 818-6203 • E-mail: rtc@cii.com.ph
To better serve the public, this ad appears in major newspapers and tabloids

Due to a growing clamor from COPW supporters for a more simplified and effective form in explaining issues that affect Filipino consumers, the COPW came out with a comics in Pilipino in major newspapers and tabloids starting this week.



Isang umaga, pinag-uusapan ng magkakapitbahay ang walang tigil na pagtaas ng presyo ng gasolina.
Hay naku, di ko na maintindihan ang halos linggo-linggong pagtaas ng presyo ng gasolina. Litong-lito na ako.
Di ko nga alam kung saan ako magtitipid eh.
Ganito yan. Napinsala kasi ng sunod-sunod na bagyo ang mga pagawaan ng langis sa Gulf of Mexico kaya't nag-angkat ng karagdagang langis ang US. Kapag lumalaki ang "demand" o pangangailangan sa krudo, tataas ang presyo nito.
Naty Tipid
Litong Lito
Pekto Apektado
Juan Makabayan
Oo nga, kapag tumaas ang presyo ng gasolina, lahat ng presyo ng bilihin sumasabay! Apektadong-apektado na ako!
Pero anong kinalaman niyan sa Pilipinas?
Yun nga Pekto, ang presyo ng mga produktong petrolyo ay ibinabase ng mga kumpanya ng langis sa presyo ng krudo sa Amerika. MALI ITO dahil ang krudo na gamit sa paggawa ng gasolina, diesel at LPG dito ay galing sa Dubai. Yung mga kumpanya naman na nag-iimport lamang ng finished products ay kumukuha sa Asya.
Eh di... hindi kailangan ganoon kalaki ang taas ng presyo ng gasolina, diesel at LPG?
KOREK KA DIYAN!
Eh paano ngayon na ipapatupad na ang EVAT Law? Siguradong mas lalong tataas ang presyo hindi lang ng gasolina pati kuryente at LAHAT ng bilihin! Lalo akong apektado dyan!
Ha? Saan pa ako magtitipid? Halos hindi na nga magkasya ang kinikita namin sa pang araw-araw na gastusin!
Mas makakatulong sana kung ang EVAT na ipapataw sa produktong petrolyo at kuryente ay 3% lang imbes na 10%.
Ay maganda yan! Sana baguhin na ng mga mambabatas natin ang batas na yan para kahit sa gasolina at kuryente makatulong naman sa taong-bayan.
Magbantay! Mag-usisa at Maki-alam para sa ating Kabutihan!

AFP wraps up 'Hello Garci' probe

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

A MILITARY FACT-FINDING BOARD HAS wrapped up its investigation into the alleged involvement of its personnel in election fraud last year and will be releasing its findings next week at the earliest, a spokesperson said yesterday.

The five-member board headed by Inspector General Vice Admiral Mateo Mayuga had interviewed 73 military officers and personnel, including the four generals implicated in the "Hello Garci" tape scandal, as well as civilians.

The board will submit its final report to AFP chief of staff Gen. Generoso Senga "between the last week of October and the second week of November," said board spokesperson Lt. Cmdr. Earl Evan Pabalan. The findings would be made public at the same time.

"Definitely, the board is poised to make a factual report based on what was submitted [to it]. If there were indications of unprofessionalism in the course of the investigation, they would be recommended for further investigation and subsequent dispositive action," Pabalan said.

He said the board interviewed "core members" of the military's Task Force HOPE (Honest, Orderly and Peaceful Elections) that was deputized to oversee the polls by the Commission on Elections during the May 2004 elections.

The fact-finding board was formed last July 26, almost two months after the "Hello Garci" tapes surfaced.

Four generals were mentioned in the phone conversations allegedly between President Macapagal-Arroyo and Comelec Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano that were taped while the votes were being canvassed.

The generals – Philippine Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, Army 1st Infantry Division chief Maj. Gen. Gabriel Habacon, Lt. Gen. Roy Kyamko (ret.), and newly retired Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani - were summoned before the board.

They all denied involvement in cheating in the election.

Gudani faces court-martial for testifying at a Senate investigation of the "Hello Garci" scandal despite a ban on doing so by President Arroyo.

The board yesterday clarified that its role was not to prosecute any officer or soldier.

"As previously stated, the board, by authority of the chief of staff, shall look into the systems that prevailed during the last national elections. It shall also examine the professional conduct of the AFP officers and men," Pabalan said in a statement.

"These shall be done with the end-view of improving the systems that are in place, and of resolving conflicts that may have come up between the AFP's current doctrines vis-a-vis the Comelec's deputization of the AFP during elections," he said.

GMA's beef: Press not reporting the good she does

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO YESTERday groused about the bad press she has been getting from "some newspapers and broadcast stations" which she said prompted her to take a direct hand in proclaiming her administration's economic achievements.

"We are doing this through this kind of forum to highlight the good things we are doing because if your read some newspapers, or listen to some stations, you might think our country is really in a bad state," said Ms Arroyo during a dialog among economic leaders which she moderated on public television yesterday afternoon.

The President has long complained that the media have been treating her and her family unfairly, even accusing some members of the press of twisting their reports just to put her in a bad light.

On her program, which has become a regular weekly fixture on state-owned NBN 4, the President underscored the country's positive economic data such as the improving peso (which she claimed was the strongest among the region's currencies), the swell in the remittances from overseas Filipino workers (up 28 percent or nearly triple the growth target of 10 percent), and record-high tourist arrivals.

The President attributed her glowing economic scorecard to what she described as an unwavering concentration on the economy despite the turbulent political environment.

"This is because we are focused on the economy even though some broadsheets or broadcast stations all come out with politics when our job is to manage the economy," the President said.

She added that the improved performance of the peso demonstrates the confidence of investors in the economy, which should increase further with the implementation of the expanded value added tax. "We need political will here, this is not a popularity contest," she said.

Funds for anti-riot gear not in budget

By Norman Bordadora

LAW ENFORCERS WHO IMPLEMENT THE government's calibrated pre-emptive response (CPR) against anti-Arroyo demonstrators may have to wait another year for new anti-riot helmets to go with their shields and truncheons.

The chair of the House committee on appropriations yesterday said there were no allocations for new CPR and civil disturbance gear in the trillion-peso budget for 2006.

"And if the police will ask for it, the sentiment is to turn it down. In fairness to the Philippine National Police, it has not made any request," Camarines Norte Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr. said.

"There is no item for civil disturbance gear in the PNP's P35.6 billion budget request for 2006 and I don't think they will capitalize on the recent spate of rallies to requisition for more," he added.

Absolutely Hair-Free Treat
EXTENDED!
▶ GET 25% OFF LASERLIGHT!

Do you want absolutely smooth and permanently hair-free skin? Don't miss Facial Care Centre's extended LaserLight treat!

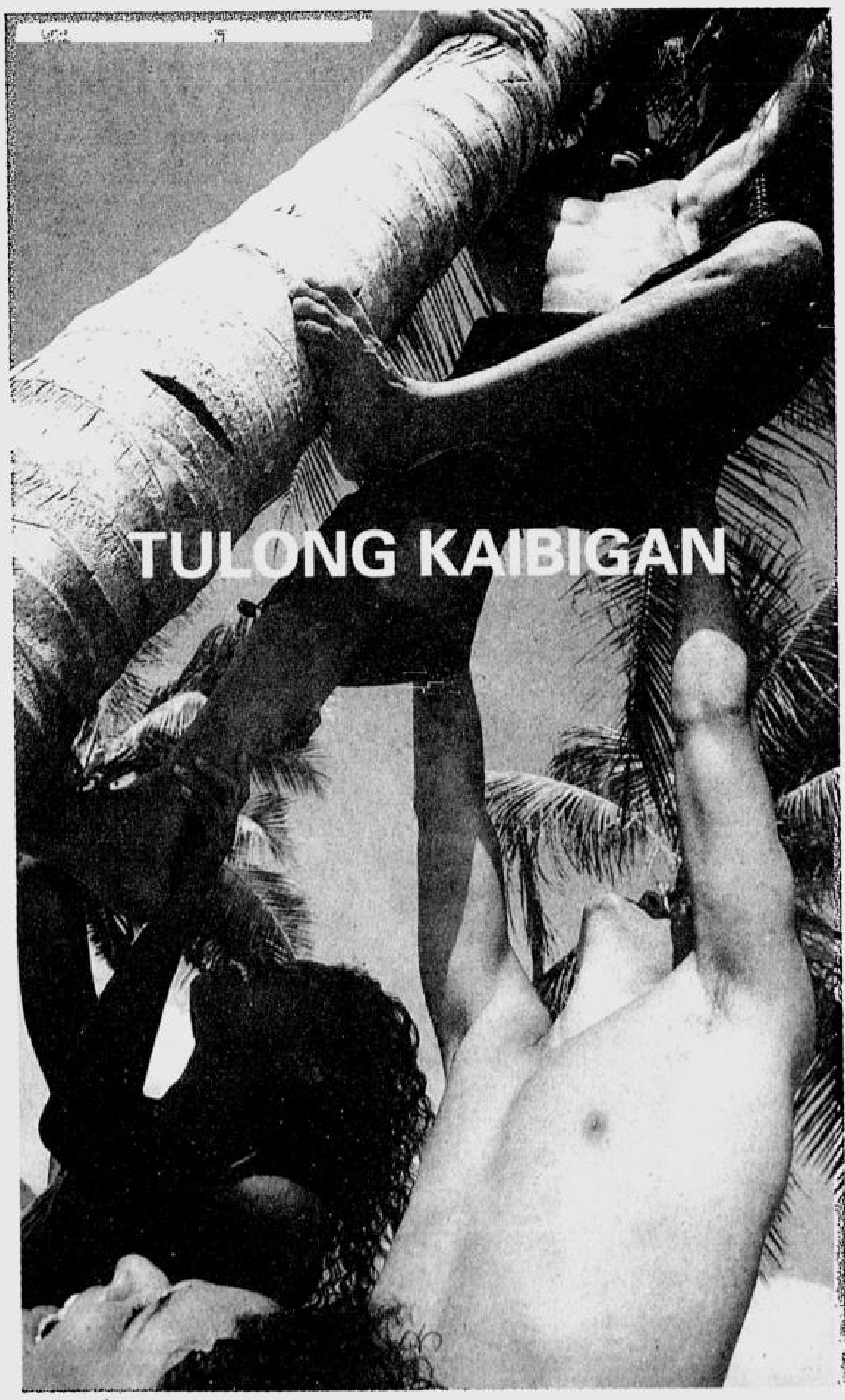
25% OFF LaserLight upon enrollment until October 29, 2005 only.*

LaserLight is *US FDA-approved for the permanent reduction of unwanted hair. No more unsightly stubble on your upper lip, underarms, bikini line or legs. And best of all, you'll never go through the harm and hassle of shaving or waxing ever again!

Enjoy our extended offer and stay hair-free forever! Call Facial Care Centre today for LaserLight.

facial care centre

CALL 892-SKIN (7546) Where Beautiful Skin Happens
www.facialcarecentre.com.ph
MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3404) CEBU (233-7631)



PRESYONG KAIBIGAN
'Yan ang Personal Loan ng HSBC.

Mas madaling abutin ang pangarap kung may tutulong. 'Yan ang nagagawa ng Personal Loan ng HSBC. Sa **1.26% monthly add-on interest**+, talagang presyong kaibigan.

- No processing fees
- No collateral required
- Fast approval
- Loan from Php30,000 to Php500,000

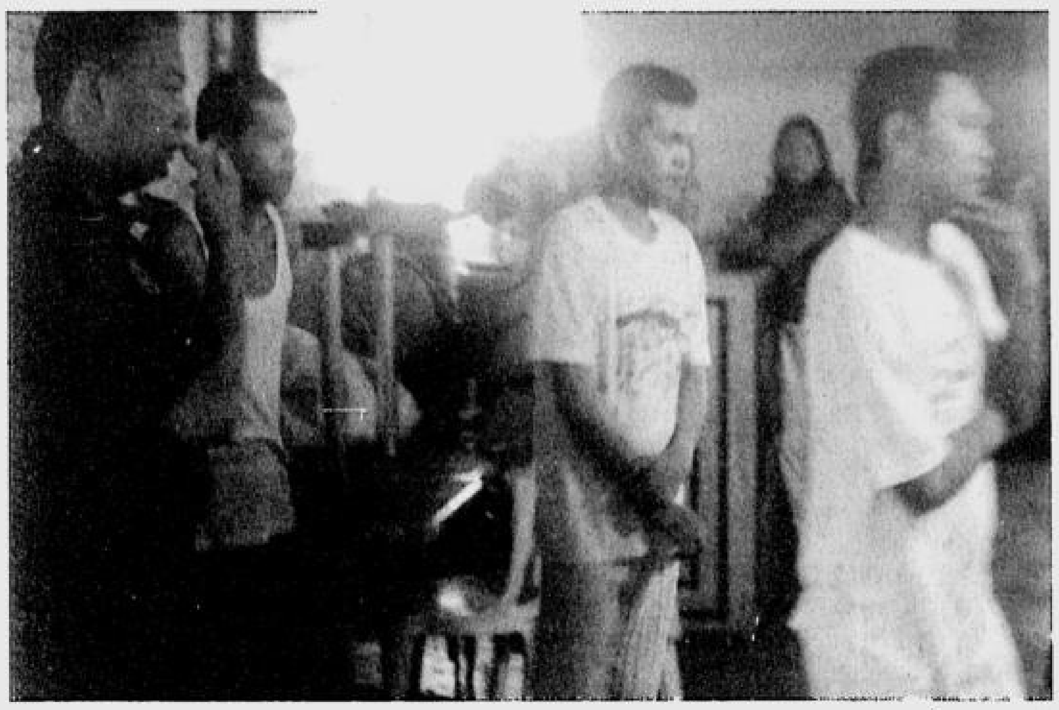
▶ Para sa tulong kaibigan, sa presyong kaibigan, tumawag lang sa (02) 840-0990.

+For an 18-month tenor loan. Equivalent to a 2.25% effective interest rate.

HSBC
The world's local bank

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited
Terms and Conditions apply. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4731 Series of 2005

3 Contemplacion brothers arrested in drug bust



SAN Pablo Police chief, Supt. Elmo Francis Sarona, questions the Contemplacion brothers – Joel, Junjun and Sandrex – who were arrested in a police buy-bust operation on Oct. 20, 2005 in Barangay Sta. Isabel, San Pablo, Laguna. Photo taken through a glass window at the San Pablo police station.

ERIK ARAZAS

By Marlon Ramos

CALAMBA CITY – THE THREE SONS OF FILipina domestic helper Flor Contemplacion, who was hanged 10 years ago in Singapore, were arrested last Thursday by police intelligence and anti-illegal drug operatives in a buy-bust operation in San Pablo City.

Arrested were Sandrex Contemplacion, 32, and his twin brothers Jon Jon and Joel, 25, according to Supt. Elmo Francis Sarona, San Pablo City police chief.

The three are the sons of Contemplacion, who was executed in Singapore in 1995 for the murder of her 4-year-old ward Nicholas Huang and a fellow Filipina domestic helper Delia Maga.

Sarona said the three were arrested in the family's compound in Barangay Sta. Isabel at about 10:30 a.m. after a poseur buyer purchased P3,000 worth of shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride) from them.

Several paraphernalia used in sniffing shabu were also recovered from the suspects.

The police chief said the three had been peddling illegal drugs in the area for years.

"They have been under surveillance and targets of our anti-illegal operations for almost a month now," Sarona told the INQUIRER in a mobile phone interview.

"The three brothers ran the whole operation. Sandrex managed the drug transactions, his brother Jon Jon received the money, while Joel delivered the shabu to the buyer," he said.

The police were still investigating the drug source of the suspects.

Sarona said drug charges had been filed against the Contemplacion brothers, who could face life imprisonment if found guilty.

The three were detained at the San Pablo City jail, since the new anti-narcotics drugs law does not allow bail if a person is arrested for peddling illegal drugs.

Despite the evidence against them, the three denied any involvement in illegal drugs, Sarona said.

He said the suspects' wives had been visiting the three since their arrest.

The 500-meter compound where they were arrested was acquired by the family with the financial assistance given to them by government officials.

Jon Jon and Joel also had a chance to play their own characters in a movie about the life story of their mother, played by Nora Aunor. The twins reportedly received P100,000 each while the Contemplacion family was said to have been paid P2 million by Viva Films for the story rights.

When the INQUIRER went to visit the family during Contemplacion's 10th death anniversary earlier this year, the brothers admitted that they were now having a hard time providing for their respective families' financial needs.

The three said they had been working as tricycle drivers to provide for their children. They also claimed that a few unscrupulous individuals pocketed some of the donations given to their mother.

Contemplacion's only daughter, Russel, works as a staff member for House Speaker Jose de Venecia. *With a report from Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau and Cyril L. Bonabente, PDI Research*

'OPLAN KALULUWA'

'Let's not give burglars a chance to victimize us'

By Luige A. del Puerto

DURING THE LONG WEEKEND, DO NOT leave your house unattended. If you must, ask a trusted neighbor or the village security officer to regularly check up on it. Needless to say, reinforce the locks and set up, if you could, an alarm system.

These were some of the tips the police gave people who intend to leave their homes over the All Saints' Day holiday.

"Let's not give burglars a chance to victimize us," said PNP spokesperson Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil.

Last week, the police issued a letter of instruction to its stations nationwide, telling its personnel to come up with their own versions of "Oplan Kaluluwa 2005" tailored to suit local needs, Bataoil said.

Stations were told, among other things, to coordinate with civic groups on the establishment of emergency centers near or in cemeteries and motorist assistance centers on major roadways.

Ground commanders must also discuss security arrangements with the officers of subdivisions. The police urged barangay officials to step up security patrols in their neighborhoods.

From Davao City, where he posthumously promoted a policeman who was killed in a shootout with a robbery gang, PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao ordered police units nationwide placed on heightened alert beginning Oct. 30.

"(Police units shall) ensure that all areas of public convergence like cemeteries, bus terminals, seaports, airports, malls, markets, churches, MRT/LRT lines and vital installations are well-secure," Lomibao said in a statement.

He also appealed to protest rally organizers to "spend time with their families and departed loved ones during the (holiday) for the sake of all concerned," instead of taking to the streets:

"You will see continuing police visibility operations...," Bataoil said.

So far, he said, the police had not received a specific terrorist threat.

But Bataoil said the police would "always presume that enemies of the state and criminals will strike when they are least expected."

Lomibao extolled and promoted PO2 Emmanuel Mangilin who was killed on Oct. 19 when the police raided the hideout of the Quindao Gang in Barangay Apokon, Tagum City.

Four suspected gang members were killed during the shootout. They were believed to be behind the rash of robberies targeting convenience stores, delivery vans and commuters in the area.

TOSHIBA

Toshiba recommends Windows® XP Professional.

Choose Quality and Reliability.

Enjoy peace of mind with FREE additional 1-year warranty^.

2 YEAR WARRANTY
ONE YEAR INTERNATIONAL + ONE YEAR LOCAL WARRANTY^

Grab great deals and enjoy a generous 2-year warranty! Hurry, promotion is only valid till 7 November 2005!

^The additional 1-year local warranty applies only to Satellite A80-P440 and M40-P535.

Star Buy!
Satellite A80-P440
Model No: PSA80L-03U003
Mobility at great value.
- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.73GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 533MHz FSB)
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG Network Connection 802.11b/g
  - Intel® 915PM Express Chipset
- Genuine Windows® XP Home Edition
- Microsoft® Office OneNote™ 2003
- Toshiba ConfigFree™ Connectivity Tool
- 256MB DDR SDRAM
- 40GB HDD with shock absorber
- DVD SuperMulti Double Layer Drive (DVD±RW/RAM)
- 15.0" XGA Clear SuperView TFT display
- ATI Mobility™ Radeon® X300 with 64MB VRAM
- Internal harman/kardon® speakers
- 6-in-1 card reader, 4x USB 2.0, IEEE1394, FIR ports
- Integrated Bluetooth™
- 1-Year carry-in International Limited Warranty (parts and labor)

FREE Canon IP1000 Printer worth P2,500
P89,990

Star Buy!
Satellite M40-P535
Model No: PSM40L-02N00C
Widescreen performance on the go.
- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 730 (1.60GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 533MHz FSB)
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG Network Connection 802.11b/g
  - Intel® 915PM Express Chipset
- Genuine Windows® XP Home Edition
- Microsoft® Office OneNote™ 2003
- Toshiba ConfigFree™ Connectivity Tool
- 512MB DDR SDRAM
- 60GB HDD with shock absorber
- CD-RW/DVD Combo Drive
- 15.4" WXGA Clear SuperView TFT display
- NVIDIA® GeForce™ Go6600 with 64MB VRAM
- Internal harman/kardon® speakers
- Integrated Bluetooth™, 6-in-1 card reader
- ExpressCard slot, IEEE1394, FIR ports
- 1-Year carry-in International Limited Warranty (parts and labor)

FREE Canon IP1000 Printer worth P2,500
P99,990

Satellite A80-P431
Model No.: PSA80L-07C02W
Mobility at great value.
- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 730 (1.60GHz, 2MB L2 Cache, 533MHz FSB)
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG Network Connection 802.11b/g
  - Intel® 915GM Express Chipset
- Genuine Windows® XP Home Edition
- Microsoft® Office OneNote™ 2003
- Toshiba ConfigFree™ Connectivity Tool
- 256MB DDR SDRAM
- 60GB HDD with shock absorber
- CD-RW/DVD Combo Drive
- 15.0" XGA Clear SuperView TFT display
- Intel® Graphics Media Accelerator 900 with up to 128MB shared VRAM
- SRS TruSurround XT™ sound technology
- 3x USB 2.0, IEEE1394, S-Video TV-out ports
- 1-Year carry-in International Limited Warranty (parts and labor)

P69,990

Satellite A80-C431
Model No: PSA82L-005009
Optimized mobility at great value.
- Intel® Celeron® M Processor 370 (1.50GHz, 1MB L2 Cache, 400MHz FSB)
- Genuine Windows® XP Home Edition
- Microsoft® Office OneNote™ 2003
- Toshiba ConfigFree™ Connectivity Tool
- 256MB DDR SDRAM
- 40GB HDD with shock absorber
- CD-RW/DVD Combo Drive
- 15.0" XGA Clear SuperView TFT display
- ATI Mobility™ Radeon® 9000 with up to 128MB shared VRAM
- Stereo speakers with SRS TruSurround XT™ sound technology
- Integrated Wireless 802.11b/g
- 1-Year carry-in International Limited Warranty (parts and labor)

P49,990

Talk-2-Toshiba
A 24/7 toll-free call-back service for warranty and technical support OR call us at +65 6744 7717

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 6233. Series of 2005
Promotion period is only till 7 November 2005.

Toshiba Mobile Computing Partner:
Tricom Dynamics, Inc. www.tricom.com.ph
MAKATI Metro House Bldg., 345 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. Tel: 890-6525 to 32 Fax: 890-0698 • **CEBU** Tel: 253-6517; 232-6391 Fax: 231-0681 • **DAVAO** Tel: 227-4137 to 38 Fax: 227-4147 • **CAGAYAN DE ORO** Tel: 22-733-158; 855-5388 Fax: 22-733-273

shopToshiba Resellers:
shopToshiba@Complink Cyberzone, SM City North EDSA North Avenue corner EDSA, Quezon City 920-9140 to 41 or 929-2694
shopToshiba@Electroworld Park Square 1, Ayala Center, Makati City 813-6154

Authorized Dealers:
COMPLINK MARKETING, INC. HEAD OFFICE: 6871234 • MEGAMALL: 6373688 • GALLERIA: 6329806 PARK SQ1. 8031489 • SM NORTH EDSA: 9209140 • SHANGRI-LA: 6374444 • SM SOUTHMALL: 8019968 • SM BACOOR: (046) 4177761 • E-HUB EASTWOOD: 6873212 • E-HUB ATC: 7762140 • **SILICON VALLEY COMPUTER CENTER** HEAD OFFICE: 3716868 • ALABANG: 807 6867 • BACOOR: 046-4177681 • BICUTAN: 827-0750 • CEBU: 032-2340464 • DAVAO: 082-2976231 • HARRISON: 525 7731 • SM MANILA: 525-3216 • SM MEGAMALL: 633-1723 • SM NORTH EDSA: 927-5831 • PAMPANGA: 045-8751722 • PARKSQUARE: 812-6734 • SM SOUTHMALL: 806-9203 • **ELECTROWORLD** HEAD OFFICE: 7472054 • SM MANILA: 5248310 • GREENBELT: 8126815 • ABENSON CAINTA: 6815301 • SM NORTH EDSA: 9270525 • SM FAIRVIEW: 4180064 • FARMERS PLAZA: 9111494 • MEGAMALL: 6331024 • SM BICUTAN: 8229014 • ABENSON SHANGRI-LA: 6388010 • PARK SQ1: 8132776 • WALTERMART MAKATI: 8929110 • ABENSON-QUAD: 8940951 • ALABANG: 8500682 • ATC: 7723258 • WALTERMART STA. ROSA LAGUNA: (049) 5491241 • **OCTAGON COMPUTER SUPERSTORE** HEAD OFFICE: 5267152 • MEGAMALL: 6330316 • SM NORTH EDSA: 9269141 • PARK SQ1: 8671704 • ROBINSON'S PLACE: 5242572 • FESTIVAL MALL: 8095475 • SM CEBU: (032) 2317354 • DAVAO: (082) 2264335 • **ABC COMPUTERS** SM NORTH EDSA: 9250410 • MEGAMALL: 6332348 • PARK SQ1: 7527569 • VIRRA MALL: 7214960 • **NT COMPUTER** HEAD OFFICE: 7245798 • MEGAMALL: 633 4690 • SHANGRI-LA: 634 4347 • SM SOUTHMALL: 802-2387 • SM NORTH EDSA: 927-2507 • **ARX COMPUTER CENTER** GALLERIA: 6320001 • SHANGRI-LA: 6350008 • SM SUCAT: 8206694 • PLATINUM SOLUTIONS SM NORTH EDSA: 4262218 • **COSMOTECH** HEAD OFFICE: 7505760 • NORTH EDSA: 9296758 • DAVAO: (082) 2256693 • CEBU: (032) 4223201

© 2005 Toshiba Singapore Pte Ltd, Computer Systems Division (South and Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters). Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Microsoft, Windows and OneNote are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries. All other products and names mentioned are the property of their respective owners. Availability and configurations may vary by country. Battery has a 1 Year carry in International Limited Warranty. While Toshiba has made every effort at the time of the press announcement to ensure the accuracy of the information provided herein, product specifications, configurations, warranty, pricing, system/component/options availability are all subject to change without prior notice. Toshiba will not be liable for editorial, pictorial and typographical errors. For online warranty registration, please visit www.pc.toshiba-asia.com/registration. [illegible]

intel inside centrino MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Satellite

Choose freedom.
www.pc.toshiba-asia.com

House falls behind schedule on approval of 2006 budget

By Norman Bordadora

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY not be able to transmit the trillion-peso national budget for 2006 to the Senate as scheduled in the second week of November, but the chair of the House committee on appropriations vowed to crack the whip to ensure his colleagues' attendance at the next budget hearings.

Reenacting the 2005 budget will become an option only if the implementation of the expanded value added tax is suspended, Camarines Norte Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr. told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview. He said the House leadership was determined to pass the budget measure "by hook or by crook" before the end November.

"Obviously, we would no longer be able to pass the budget by mid-November," Andaya said. "As it is we are already delayed... But what is important is (that) we pass a new budget."

Senate ways and means committee chair Sen. Ralph Recto had warned over the weekend that the House version of the 2006 budget might not reach the Senate as scheduled by mid-November as alleged squabbling among members of the majority over leadership positions in the House was holding up deliberations on the budget.

INQUIRER Platinum Code

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER • PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY • 1985 20 2005

* one of the highlighted letters will be used twice

What is a great read?

Find the answer to the question in the highlighted letters above. Highlighted letters may be used more than once. Text in your answer to 29768* for SMART, Globe, and Sun Cellular subscribers and get a chance to win in the weekly or grand draws!

*To join, initially send PDI<space>20<space>answer<space>name/address/age/gender to 29768. Ex.: PDI 20 ANSWER Jonah Imperial/#1 Paco St., Makati/22/F. For succeeding answers, the registered subscriber simply sends PDI<space>20<space>answer to 29768. Each entry sent is P2.50. Each participant is allowed a maximum of 3 entries per day.

Prizes at stake:
Weekly Prize: One (1) Winner – P 20,000 in Cash
Grand Prize: One (1) Winner – P 200,000 in Cash
Note: The 20% tax on prizes exceeding P10,000 will be shouldered by the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

See print ads and flyers for complete details.

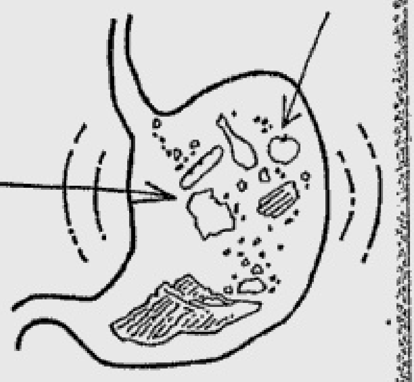
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Promo runs from July 17 to December 3, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4227, Series of 2005

Rx What is DYSPEPSIA?

Dyspepsia is a common stomach condition marked by symptoms of BLOATING, FULLNESS, GAS, BURPING and GENERAL STOMACH DISCOMFORT. Sufferers experience these symptoms over and over again.

Causes of DYSPEPSIA



The stomach is normally in a state of motility, where the stomach propels food down the digestive tract through steady, rhythmic contractions. Dyspepsia is usually caused by dysmotility in which stomach movement becomes uncoordinated and slows down emptying of its contents. This results in symptoms of dyspepsia like bloating, fullness and gas.

Dyspepsia can occur any time, but typically follows meals, especially with spicy and fatty food. Stress and alcohol can also trigger dyspepsia.

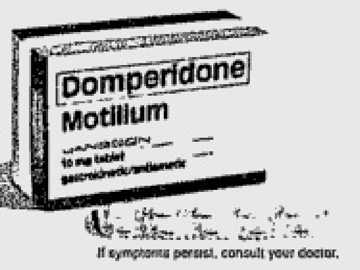
Treatment

A class of medication called prokinetics can relieve dyspeptic symptoms by restoring motility-normal movement in the stomach. The most widely used prokinetic in the Philippines is domperidone, available in 10mg tablet form. Domperidone is best taken before meals.

See Your Doctor

If your symptoms persist, consult your doctor. Your doctor can help you manage dyspepsia.

By: **Dr. Sherrie Querubin-De Ocampo**
Head, Motility Council,
Philippine Society of Gastroenterology


Sa Dyspepsia,

Domperidone
Motilium

If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

LOSE 10, 20 or 30 LBS!
WOMEN: NO MORE CELLULITE. MEN: INCREASE YOUR SEX DRIVE.

SLIMMERS WORLD

THIS WEEK'S PROMO

ONLY P40 PER DAY on Full Fitness Programmes.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #2787. Series of 2005

NO JOINING FEES or MONTHLY DUES on Fitness, Bio Dynamics, Lifetime, Skin or Body Programmes.
HUGE SAVINGS ON ALL PROGRAMMES!

BUILD GREAT MUSCLES!

CARDIOVASCULAR ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM Using personalized FLAT SCREEN TV!

FITNESS HOTLINE 8873533
CELLPHONE 091-SLIMMERS
(75466377)

SLIMMERS WORLD Face, Skin, Body & Nutrition CENTERS

THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN FIRMING & SLIMMING MESOTHERAPY

- BODY SCRUB
- SKIN WHITENING
- AQUAMID
- BOTOX
- RESTYLANE
- PERLANE
- FACIAL
- LASER ACNE TREATMENT
- WART REMOVAL
- NUTRACELL-FACE
- PERMANENT LASER HAIR REMOVAL

For beautiful smooth white skin...
Diamond Ultrapeel
BUY 10 TREATMENTS GET 5 FREE!
ONLY FOR CALLERS TODAY. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2787, Series of 2005

SKIN HOTLINE 8871331 CELLPHONE 09164099312

CALL US: www.slimmersworld.com.ph inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

ALABANG	BINONDO	CALOOCAN	CEBU	GREENHILLS	LEGASPI VILL.	MALATE	MEGAMALL	PASAY ROAD	PASIG	SM NORTH	SUBIC	TRAFALGAR
Gemma/Wendy 2F RCBC Bldg. Zapote-Alabang Rd. 809-0396	Thelma/Jannah 3F Regina Garden II 242-1312	Sherry/Bheng/Olive 6F Panorama Bldg., Rizal Ave. 365-7653	Luisa/Chryso Basement 1&2 Ayala Center 231-3254	Kristine 27F Atlanta Ctr. #31 Annapolis 726-6505	Lani/Jonah GF Zeta Bldg. Salcedo St. 893-8935	Daisy/Mhaye 6F Adriatico Square Adriatico ,Manila 536-0619	Gina 2F Bldg. A Mandaluyong 631-3869	Cher/Maan 1032 Arnaiz Ave. cor. Hernandez St. 887-1335 09178515920	Lorie/Dino/Tracy Restaurant Ave. Marcos Hi-way 681-5333	Mitch 2F Annex Bldg. Quezon City 929-5429	Beth/Precy 2F Times Square Rizal Hi-way 252-6514	Anna 28F Trafalgar Plaza H.V dela Costa 814-0138

SKIN CENTER: ALABANG 7750587/09183912510 BINONDO 2420728/09178224399 CALOOCAN 3657653 GREENHILLS 7261526/09194986196 MALATE 5259891/09213173415 MEGAMALL 6377543/09162479753 PASAY RD. 8873530/09156893088 PASIG 6473814/09275341314

Oil firms raise prices anew: Gas up by 50c/liter; LPG, 50c/kg

By Abigail L. Ho

MAJOR OIL COMPANIES Petron Corp., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Caltex Philippines Inc. have raised anew the prices of their gasoline products by 50 centavos a liter and of their cooking gas by 50 centavos per kilogram, or P5.50 per 11-kg canister.

Shell set its new prices on Saturday, Caltex at 12:01 a.m. Sunday, and Petron at 12:01 a.m. yesterday.

Total (Philippines) Corp. also increased prices of the same products by the same levels at 6 a.m. Sunday. Flying V and Eastern Petroleum Corp. also increased prices of gasoline, diesel and kerosene at 12:01 a.m. and 5 a.m. Monday, respectively.

Premium unleaded gasoline now retails at between P36.05 and P36.92 a liter, diesel fuel at between P31.70 and P34.35 a liter, kerosene at P33.30 and P34.52 a liter and LPG at between P427.50 and P465.50 per 11-kilogram cylinder.

The oil firms cited yet-to-be-recovered costs as their reason for hiking their prices.

But prices of oil products in the world market have declined. Data from the Department of Energy revealed the regional benchmark Dubai crude had already slipped to an October average of $54.32 a barrel, more than $2 lower than the September average of $56.54 a barrel.

The price of unleaded gasoline based on the Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS) benchmark for refined petroleum products had also declined by more than $8 to only $70.96 a barrel in the first 21 days of the month, from a high $79.40-a-barrel average last month.

The price of MOPS-based diesel fuel had also started to fall, dropping slightly to an Oct. 1-21 average of $77.94 a barrel from $79.67 a barrel in September.

The international contract price of liquefied petroleum gas, however, skyrocketed to a historic high of $519 per metric ton (MT) this month, registering the highest ever month-on-month rise since 1999 of almost $80 per ton. The September price was placed at $440.20 per MT.

The oil firms said they had yet to recover some of their costs they incurred the past few weeks, as they were not able to immediately reflect fluctuations in world market prices in their pumps.

Trouble at CHEd: Who is the head?

By Alcuin Papa

TENSION AND CONFUSION ARE BUILDING up in the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) as two of its top officials squabble over who now heads the agency that oversees the country's centers of knowledge and wisdom.

The battle between CHEd deputy director Julito Vitriolo and acting chair Dr. Carlito Puno began shortly after President Macapagal-Arroyo named Dr. Nona Ricafort as acting commissioner in the place of Puno, himself concurrently an acting commissioner, last Sept. 26.

Vitriolo, a lawyer, maintains that since Puno's term as acting commissioner has expired with Ricafort's appointment, he must also step down as acting chair of CHEd. But Puno counters that while his term as acting commissioner may have expired, he remains acting chair because the President has not revoked that appointment.

The CHEd oversees 1,538 colleges and universities throughout the country. It is responsible for setting policies for higher education that affect almost 3 million students and around 93,000 professors in both private and state-run colleges and universities.

In an interview with reporters, Vitriolo, who has been with the CHEd since its creation in 1995, said that if Puno wanted to stay on, he should produce a valid appointment or, failing that, "he should not stay a day longer as acting chair."

Last Oct. 17, Vitriolo issued a memo to all CHEd employees and officials saying Puno's term had expired with the appointment of his replacement and that Puno's continued performance of his duties amounted to usurpation of authority.

Puno's insistence on staying on as acting head of CHEd "is a black eye for the President" and would have a "negative effect on higher education," Vitriolo said, adding that the controversy was fueling tension and work had already bogged down.

But in a separate interview, Puno insisted that his appointment as commissioner and acting chair were two separate and distinct appointments. "It does not necessarily mean that just because I lose one appointment, I will lose the other," he said

Puno said he showed a copy of Vitriolo's memo to Jake Lagonera, an undersecretary at the Office of the President, during a Cabinet meeting last week. "He (Lagonera) got angry. He said, 'Why should he know more than the President,'" Puno said.

He said Lagonera had assured him that Malacañang would issue a clarification, but that has not come. Puno said he would go quietly if Malacañang should so order.

The other commissioners have stayed out of the squabble

Last Oct. 12, the CHEd Employees Association (CHEDEA) wrote Malacañang for a clarification of the issue because "we are now in a quandary." The Palace has not replied.

Puno, a former president of the Philippine Christian University, was named acting commissioner of CHEd last July 11 with a term that was to have ended 19 days later. But Ms Arroyo extended his term indefinitely last May 3 and named him acting chair.

A Dominican priest, Fr. Rolando dela Rosa, resigned as head of CHEd last April after failing to obtain the support of both Malacañang and Congress for the closure of two dozen nursing schools which CHEd considered sub-standard.

NPC raps Gonzalez for ban on reporter

THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB HAS ISSUED a resolution criticizing Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez for banning a Manila Times reporter from entering the former's office.

Gonzalez's decision, as stated in the resolution, stemmed from Canlas' reporting on what transpired during a phone conversation between the justice secretary and Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa Ignacio.

According to the NPC, Gonzalez's order prevented reporter Jomar Canlas from carrying out his job properly.

"Such banning of a reporter from entering the Secretary of Justice's office is a clear suppression of Canlas' freedom to secure information from a public office, to the detriment of his ability to report the news accurately," the resolution stated.

The NPC also called the act unbecoming a justice secretary, who it said must uphold the media's freedom of expression.

"We hereby resolve to condemn Justice Secretary Gonzalez for banning our colleague in the journalistic profession from his office, which is tantamount to suppression of Canlas' inherent right to get first-hand information from his beat," it said. *Leila B. Salaverria*

NEW!
MAGIC SING XTREME™
HANDHELD VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
THE ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
INTERNATIONAL EDITION
Fun and Music in your hand!
VERSION 9.0
ALL-NEW GUARANTEED ALL-ORIGINAL

With 900 International Pop Songs PLUS XTREME Exclusives!
- 7 Authentic Filipino songs -this bonus is real!
- 82 Magical International and Philippine scenes!
- Protective XTREME leatherette jacket!

Buy Version 9.0 and join XTREME Days of Christmas
Over P1,000,000 is up for grabs!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2370 Series 2005

AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE ONLY FROM AUTHORIZED DEALERS OF XTREME MAGIC MICS:

SM Appliance Center · Super SM · SM · Fiestamall · Ambassador Appliances, Inc. · Anson Emporium · VideoCity · Rustan's Department Store · Showise · Radio City · Precision · SD Sound Dimension Park Square 1 · Crossings · Hotel Rembrandt · Metro · 5th Ave · Deeco · Cost U Less · makro · Gillamac's · Gaisano Main · Country Mall · Gaisano South Group · Gaisano · Ever Department Store · Music Zone · Addessa · Magic Appliance Center · EMCOR · Optimum Trader Currency Specialist · Ocampo's · Conpinco · Mike's Dept. Store · MARKETING · Imperial Appliance Plaza

METRO MANILA DEALERS
QUIAPO / BINONDO Armstrong Electronics 733-2849 • Bog's Electronics 733-2386 • Delta Appliances 533-4653 • AJD Electronics 736-3880 • JMD Electronics 736-3880 • Gemetric 314-8871 • Joy's Electronics 734-9904 • Just 734-1819 • Hi-Mark Sales 736-1882 • Joms Appliances 703-1024 • Millennium Electronics 314-8508 • OK Electronic 733-0691 • Richland 734-3591 • Santech Electronics 734-1821 • W & M Marketing 735-4274 • Worldwide Audio & Video 241-3446 • **MALATE / MAKATI / PARAÑAQUE / PASIG / MUNTINLUPA** A. Salonga 400-4492 • ImageVideo 525-1015 • Sohan Audio & Video Int'l 527-1171 • Phasetron Audio Systems 819-7372 • M@RS Trading 776-8528 • U R Household Shop 687-0400 • Alabang Marketing 533-4653

PROVINCIAL DEALERS
BAGUIO Rajat Electronics (074) 444-9340 • **BATAAN** Ocampo's Mega Store, Inc. Balanga (047) 237-2643, Dinalupihan • **BICOL** Multibrand (054) 473-7282 • **BOHOL** Island City Mall (038) 411-3860 • **CAVITE** V. Divina Enterprises (046) 890-0399 • **CEBU** A. Salonga (032) 232-5378, M. Miranda (032) 262-3619 • **DAVAO** Funtronics (082) 227-0545 • **ILOCOS NORTE** Ricafort Trading (077) 770-3410 • **LAOAG** New India Dept. Store (077) 772 0679,(077) 772-0478 • Allied Marketing (077) 770-3257 • **LAGUNA** MSC Data Exchange (049) 562-7172 • **LEYTE** RL Appliance (053) 321-2635 / 7442 Sugud Branch 382-3029, Baybay Branch 563-8113, Ormoc City Branch 561-4326, Naval Biliran Branch 500-9710, Maasin City Branch 381-3861 • **LUCENA** Recio (042) 373-7777 • **OLONGAPO** Ocampo's Olongapo, Inc. (047) 222-4444, (047) 223-3000, (047) 222-2548 • **PANGASINAN** Ricafort Trading (075) 522-7112 • **PAMPANGA** Downtown (045) 900-0225, Ocampo's Emporium (045) 963-0084, Ocampo's Jewelry (045) 888-2649 • **S. COTABATO** D' Sunata Record Bar General Santos (083) 553-5073, Koronadal (083) 228-3844 • **TUGUEGARAO** New Tuguegarao Bombay Bazaar (078) 844-2560, (078) 846-2259 • **ZAMBALES** Ocampo's Subic (047) 232-2930

EXCLUSIVELY DISTRIBUTED BY
THE ASTRA GROUP, INC. G/F Richbelt Tower, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel: 72-MAGIC (62442), 726-9999, 726-2443, 726-2449 www.astramagicsing.com
MANUFACTURED BY: ET ENTER TECH
ENTER TECH CO. LTD. (Korea)

INQUIRER 20 In cooperation with GMA NETWORK

Inquirer Seminar Series
SUPERFEST
CELEBRATING PINOY YOUTH BREAKTHROUGHS

SUPERFEST
CELEBRATING PINOY
YOUTH BREAKTHROUGHS

applicationFORM
cut out and fax to 7251936

Delegate Information

Last name, First name, Middle name
School
Year & Course

Landline	Mobile Number
E-mail	

List your extracurricular activities:

invitedSPEAKERSinclude
Hans Lopez Vito (McCann Erickson)
Winnie Monsod (Professor, UP Diliman)
Jiggy Manicad (Reporter, GMA Network)
Conrado de Quiros (Columnist, Philippine Daily Inquirer)
Senator Francis N. Pangilinan
Senator Edgardo Angara
Senator Manuel A. Roxas
Lourd de Veyra (Palanca Awardee, Independent Artist)
Emil Flores (Comics Editor, Professor)

registrationFEE
Regular Rate = Php 500
Walk-in Rate = Php 600

GROUP DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE
Inquire for details

Visit the website for payment procedures

sponsoredBY
yehey! · Nova · Hot Loops · Magic Flakes · Dynamite · MAXX · abea lifestyle furniture · ClickTheCity.com

contactDETAILS
website: www.inquirerseminarseries.com
email: inquirerseminarseries2005@yahoo.com
cellphone: 09209601861 - Lawrence
cellphone: 09164316276 - Cels

We're no rubber stamp, Concom members tell media

By Nikko Dizon

IF ITS LIVELY DEBATES WERE any gauge, the Consultative Commission is not a rubber-stamp body, its members said yesterday.

"You have to attend our sessions. You will see for yourself we are not the rubber stamp of anybody because we have lively discussions and friendly debates on all the issues and every so often we are divided," said delegate Prof. Emily Marohombsar at a press conference shortly before the group left for Cebu City on the first leg of their nationwide consultations.

For his part, Sergio Apostol, chair and CEO of Agri-Agua Corp., went straight to the point.

"I think the President has already accepted the fact that this is an independent body," Apostol told the INQUIRER.

Yesterday, the 48 members of the commission who were appointed by President Macapagal-Arroyo left to begin week-long nationwide consultations that would also take them to the cities of Iloilo, Tacloban, Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro and Puerto Princesa.

Commission chair Prof. Jose Abueva left ahead of the group.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita arrived at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Centennial Terminal shortly after the press conference to have lunch with the delegates before seeing them off.

Commission member James Marty Lim, national president of the League of Barangays, had said over the weekend that the body "is no more than a rubber stamp commission" following a flawed process where proposed amendments were first voted upon before the public was consulted.

SEA•DOO
SEA SCOOTER
Available in Std. or GTI models
For swimming, snorkeling & scuba diving!
Be assured of endless enjoyment with SEA•DOO Std. or GTI Sea Scooters
VALUE SPECS:

	Std.	GTI
Depth	80 ft.	115 ft.
Speed	3.2 kms/hr	4.8 kms/hr
Rechargeable	✓	✓
Carry bag	✓	✓
Promo price	P14,500	P19,500

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS! Always look for the SEA•DOO 6-months warranty card!
OPEN ON SUNDAYS 10 am - 3 pm
Call or visit
BOATING WORLD, INC. 9636 Kamagong St., San Antonio Village, Makati City Tel. nos.: 897-8771 • 890-4272

Dilat kuwago sa gabi?
Take LEIZENZI regularly!
Zzzzzz
LEIZENZI herbal supplement recommended starter dose: 2-3 caps 3x a day for 7 - 14 days, Maintenance: 2 caps daily
May tulog ka!
mercury drug
NAKASISIGURO GAMOT AY LAGING BAGO
Better Herbs Inc. 723 4376, 721 4376 or text (0918) 934 9347

HARDWARE WORKSHOP
OUTDOOR PICKS SALE

NOW P395.00
Reg. P449.75
Small Camping Bag w/ wheels

NOW P495.00
Reg. P549.75
Big Camping Bag w/ wheels

NOW P420.00
Reg. P499.75
Sleeping Bag

NOW P995.00
Reg. P1,499.75
Gazebo Tent
• 3 m. x 3 m. (300 cm. x 300 cm.)

NOW P1,495.00
Reg. P1,799.75
Foldable Picnic Table

NOW P995.00
Reg. P1,299.75
Rubbermaid Slim Cooler
• Model (1601)

NOW P495.00
Reg. P629.75
Rubbermaid Jug
• 1 gal (4.54 L.)
• Model (1560)
Also available
1/2 gal. P250
2 gal. P695

NOW P950.00
Reg. P999.75
American Heritage Rechargeable Oscillating Fan w/ Night-Lite

Seasons Latex Paint
P295.00
Seasons Latex Flat White Paint 4 liters

NOW P365.00
Reg. P429.75
Basic Camping Chair w/ armrest and bottle holder

NOW P545.00
Reg. P599.75
Special Camping Chair w/ armrest and bottle holder

NOW P495.00
Reg. P549.75
Space Saver Camping Chair w/ armrest and bottle holder

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2524, Series of 2005
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
NOW THRU OCTOBER 31
METRO MANILA: sm city manila • sm city san lazaro • sm quiapo • sm city sta. mesa • sm harrison • sm city north edsa main • sm city north edsa annex • sm city bicutan • sm southmall las piñas LUZON: sm city marilao • sm city dasmariñas • sm city batangas • sm city lucena

BPI Family Savings Bank gives you and your friends the lowest Auto Loan deal ever!
Drive your Dream AUTO LOAN now offers the OFFICE BARKADA PLAN

For more information, call the Auto Loans Direct Marketing hotline at 845-6777 during office hours or 89-100 (24/7).
You can also text AUTO<space>your full name<space>your landline number<space>city or province to 0917-89100-00 (for example: "AUTO Manny Gomez 8456777 Makati City"), or you may visit any BPI or BPI Family Savings Bank branch or Express Banking Center near you.

If you're at least two or more in your barkada with a minimum P30,000 monthly income, send us your application forms, certificates of employment or pay slips and we'll get all of you started on your dream cars.

- As LOW as 15% down payment
- Up to 72 months payment term
- Express Approval

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Get started on tomorrow.

Owning your dream car is as easy as this:
SAMPLE COMPUTATION:

UNIT	Honda CITY A 1.3 M/T
Selling Price	P561,000.00*
15% Down Payment	P84,150.00
Loan Amount	P476,850.00
Loan Term	72 months
Interest Rate (APS**)	48.31%
Monthly Payment	P9,823.00

*The price of the Honda City is as of October 2005 and may change without prior notice.
**Advance Payment Scheme, where the first monthly payment is paid upon booking of the loan.

GMA: No to snap polls, yes to coalition gov't

From page A1

as her constitutional successor.

In one of the meetings, Ms Arroyo agreed to at least one proposal to put up a coalition Cabinet with opposition members.

The sources said the President met with Velarde twice after he and Vidal conferred with the Makati Business Club (MBC) and other business groups two weeks ago in Makati City.

The influential leader of El Shaddai and the senior member of the Catholic Church discussed with business leaders the possibility of seeking an amendment to the Constitution to pave the way for a presidential election in 2007, which would effectively cut Ms Arroyo's six-year term.

After the MBC meeting, Ms Arroyo met with Velarde during which the El Shaddai leader reported to her the sentiments of the businessmen, an official who asked not to be named told the INQUIRER.

The President met with Velarde again on Friday, when she took the trouble of going to Velarde's Tagaytay Highlands residence.

The unusual presidential trip to Tagaytay came after Velarde spoke to the INQUIRER on Oct. 17 to denounce the police dispersal of a religious rally and to call for a referendum on whether the President should finish her six-year term.

"(To look for a) way out and also to consult (Velarde) because of his position against the CPR (calibrated preemptive response)," the source said of the purpose of the Tagaytay Highlands meeting.

The government's CPR policy allows the police to disperse rallies without permits.

Banana republic

Another ranking official told the INQUIRER that Ms Arroyo had met with Vidal two weeks ago, but the source did not say what was discussed.

The first source said it was up to Malacañang to disclose what Ms Arroyo's response was to Velarde's proposal for an election in 2007.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye yesterday said that a snap election "is a surefire formula for a banana republic where the next leader will be the object of unending plots and intrigues."

Bunye said opponents of Ms Arroyo were calling for a snap election after they failed to oust her in the streets and in Congress.

The opposition has been waging a campaign to oust the President over charges that she cheated to win the May 2004 election. However, Ms Arroyo, whose six-year term ends in 2010, has denied any wrongdoing and refuses to step down.

This has led to a political stand-off, raising fears of a military takeover.

Underestimated

Also Monday, De Castro rejected the BWM proposal, saying it "has no legal basis."

He said the proposal did not sit well with him because BWM underestimated him both as Vice President and as a person.

The people should first agree to amend the Constitution and change the term limits through a plebiscite, according to De Castro. Until the Charter is changed, he said, he would remain Vice President until 2010 as provided for in the Constitution.

"I am not a servant of one, two or 10 people," De Castro said. "I owe my position to the people who voted for me. No one has the right to remove me or force me to resign but the people."

He said he would only take over the presidency if there was a vacancy.

Reaching out

Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. accompanied the President to both meetings with Velarde.

"We met with Brother Mike but I won't tell you where," the Speaker told the INQUIRER.

During the meeting, according to the Speaker, he and the President agreed to Velarde's proposal to reach out to the opposition and give its members positions in the Cabinet.

"We have endorsed in principle a coalition Cabinet because this is in line with what President Macapagal-Arroyo and I have been pushing for in the last two years—a government of national unity," he said.

De Venecia said he and the President wanted the "coalition Cabinet" assembled "the sooner, the better."

"I believe this proposal is advancing forward," he said, adding that he, the President, Velarde and Vidal were discussing the proposal. He said he would also consult with the different political parties.

Asked who among the opposition groups or personalities would be asked to join or nominate people to the Cabinet, De Venecia said: "No names mentioned yet."

De Venecia said Velarde's formula for a 60-40 distribution of Cabinet posts in favor of the opposition was "not realistic."

He said the proportion would "not necessarily" be that as proposed by Velarde.

Velarde earlier told the INQUIRER that he had brought up the formula for power-sharing as a first step toward resolving the political crisis arising from doubts about the legitimacy of the Arroyo presidency.

Principled cooperation

But during the subsequent interview on Oct. 17, Velarde said he was dropping the term power-sharing in favor of the "more neutral principled cooperation" between the President and her critics and foes.

Velarde brushed aside apprehensions that members of the opposition in the Cabinet would be dangerous to Ms Arroyo because they could oust her by signing a document declaring she could no longer discharge her functions as President.

He said members of the opposition would be asked to sign a covenant that they would do no such thing, and that it would be signed by more than one million people—his El Shaddai followers—as witnesses. El Shaddai claims some five million followers.

Environment Secretary Michael Defensor said he had "no problem" with a coalition Cabinet as long as the opposition showed enough good faith to achieve genuine reconciliation.

"The situation now is full of bad faith. We should agree to quiet down, anyway Christmas is just around the corner ... While the President is sincere about unity and reconciliation, she's constantly under attack," Defensor said.

Christmas holidays

Presidential political adviser Gabriel Claudio said the President's foes were being pressured into keeping alive the issues against the administration because the Christmas holidays were just around the corner.

He said the Christmas season was a time when the mood of the nation was for "going back to normalcy, to harmony and brotherhood."

The momentum gained by the Palace in seeking to amend the Constitution is also putting pressure on the anti-Arroyo forces as this advocates "legitimate constitutional and political reforms," he said.

Claudio also scored BWM for giving De Castro an ultimatum to join the group. "Nothing can be more arrogant and presumptuous for a group like the Black and White Movement to give such an ultimatum to the Vice President," he said.

Puppet president

Former Sen. Loren Legarda twitted efforts by anti-Arroyo forces to foist De Castro on the nation, saying he had no right to become even a "puppet president" until 2007 because his election was "dubious."

Legarda is contesting the results of the vice presidential election.

"Some groups want to make a puppet president out of De Castro because of his perceived malleability and susceptibility to exploitation," she said.

"But an administration under De Castro would never be acceptable to the people because only a legitimately elected Vice President, which De Castro is definitely not, can ever lay claim to constitutional succession," she said.

Vidal distances self from snap poll report

By Connie E. Fernandez
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—CEBU ARCHBISHop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal yesterday distanced himself from reports that he was among those calling for a snap election.

In a statement issued by Msgr. Achilles Dakay, Cebu Archdiocese media liaison, Vidal stood by the position of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) on the political crisis.

"The Archbishop of Cebu, Ricardo J. Cardinal Vidal, is dissociating himself from a newspaper report that he is one of those calling for a snap election," the statement said.

Vidal reiterated his call for prayers and sobriety among the leaders of the country, the statement said.

"The Cardinal also appealed for a stop to political intrigues, especially those that drag the names of bishops and the Church," it said.

The statement was referring to an INQUIRER story yesterday quoting Sen. Sergio Osmeña III as saying that Vidal and El Shaddai leader Bro. Mike Velarde were calling for a snap election through a single amendment to the Constitution.

Osmeña said Vidal and Velarde had met with the country's nine top businessmen about "10 days ago" and asked them to lobby Congress to pass the amendment to the Constitution that would allow for a snap election.

"Since snap elections are not provided for in the Constitution, they thought that Congress sitting as a constituent assembly could pass a bullet amendment calling immediately for snap elections," he said.

He said the meeting was held at the Citibank Tower in Makati and was attended by nine businessmen from the Makati Business Club, Financial Executives of the Philippines, Management Association of the Philippines and the Federation of Philippine Industries.

The senator, however, would not identify his source. But he told the INQUIRER on Saturday night that the source was "unimpeachable."

When interviewed by the INQUIRER on Sunday night, Vidal said he had attended several meetings while he was in Manila. He, however, would not say if one of the meetings was with the country's top businessmen. He added he was just a participant and did not initiate anything.

He refused to divulge details of the meetings, saying he was not authorized to do so.

The INQUIRER asked Vidal about his stand on snap elections. The prelate replied: "It is not in the Constitution." He said a "special law" was needed for that.

Show kids you read, parents told

From page A1

yesterday.

Organized by the nonprofit Sa Aklat Sisikat Foundation (SAS), the conference gathered 100 grade school teachers in Metro Manila to train them on how to promote the habit of reading.

"To be able to achieve a culture of reading, the community has to come together," Nebres said as he welcomed the delegates to the conference Friday on the Ateneo campus.

"We must push parents to read more. And they must be seen while reading. They should give books to their children as gifts," he said. "Children imitate us (adults). They follow what we do."

Modular library program

A government program to build more libraries across the country could further boost reading among Filipinos.

After stepping up the construction of school buildings in the past three years, President Macapagal-Arroyo is now focusing on building libraries equipped with personal computers in barrio schools.

The President yesterday unveiled a P358-million GMA Modular Library program, which will triple the number of barangay libraries from 500 to 1,500 within the next two years.

Ms Arroyo noted that with the budget for public education still insufficient to cope with the rising student population, a critical component of the learning process has been overlooked—the library.

Although it has been 56 years since a municipal library law was enacted mandating the establishment of 1,000 libraries, only 500 have been set up—40 in 81 provinces, 89 in 100 cities, and 350 in 43,000 barangays.

The program is a joint undertaking between the British Mabey Group, one of the biggest bridge contractors of the government, and the Department of Public Works and Highways.

20-foot steel containers

Mabey Group will design and manufacture the projected 1,000 modular libraries using 20-foot steel containers at an estimated cost of P200,914 each, plus P130,000 worth of books and equipment.

It will shoulder the cost of the initial 100 units while the DPWH will bankroll the balance of 900 units.

The government is also planning to seek the assistance of Philippine National Oil Co. in installing solar panels to supply power to the libraries, especially in far-flung areas.

The modular library program is patterned after the government's successful partnership with the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce, which has spearheaded the construction of thousands of barangay schools nationwide at half the cost of the government's budget—7-by-14-meter, two-classroom buildings costing P350,000 each.

Good story

Whether one first learns to read in Filipino, English or another language is not important, Nebres said. The joy of reading will continue to flourish even if someone learns a second or third language, he said.

It also pays to teach language lessons using stories, he said. Children will always relate to a good story, and it is through stories that they best learn values like nationalism, he said.

A country that has cultivated a culture of reading has a priceless resource, Nebres said.

SAS president Margarita Delgado said the foundation was working to wage a reading movement within the education sector to make the Philippines a "nation of readers."

Established in 2001 and funded by Petron Foundation, SAS has actively promoted reading awareness in 454 schools among more than 91,000 Grade 4 pupils and 1,755 teachers, according to organizers.

A book for each child

The foundation has also distributed some 104,900 storybooks all over the country.

"Putting a book in every child's hands" has been the goal of SAS, but "books are only as good as the hands that lead a child to read," Delgado said.

Teachers have a great responsibility to encourage the reading habit among their pupils, she said.

Delgado expressed hope that the conference, which featured education experts and inspirational speakers, would be of great use to the teachers when they return to their schools.

Speakers at the conference included news anchor Tina Monzon-Palma, Ateneo theater director Onofre Pagsanghan, stage actor Bodgie Pascua, and children's book authors Ramon Sunico and Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz. *With a report from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

Congress cool to call for early election

From page A1

Speaker Jose de Venecia called for "basic structural and large-scale changes" in the Constitution that would set the stage for a presidential election next year.

Not for one bullet change

"We are not after a one-bullet amendment that will only create false expectations," said De Venecia. He said that majority of lawmakers and local officials who signed a declaration Thursday supported "large-scale Charter change, which is our priority."

"We are for amending the Constitution to shift the country immediately to a parliamentary system and a unicameral legislature, and to a federal system after a transition period acceptable to local governments," De Venecia said.

Lacson said those calling for a snap election could have a serious problem.

"Since the bid to impeach GMA had already failed, and she doesn't want to resign, not to mention that the VP doesn't want to take over, they may have to incapacitate both of them or kill them both to be able to have a snap election," he said in a text message.

"While this is constitutional, this is also criminal. Ouster, assuming it is a more viable option, would also preclude snap election since those who would be responsible for the ouster shall have the option to take over power and give it to whoever they wish to lead the country," Lacson said.

"What I'm saying is that a snap election, while palatable to many, may not be a realistic option."

Santiago vowed to oppose any move to amend the Constitution to pave the way for immediate elections.

Agenda of Makati oligarchy

"It is constitutional evil to amend one provision for the sole purpose of accommodating the agenda of a special interest group, namely one Makati oligarchy," Santiago said, referring to "big businessmen" in Makati City.

"One Makati rich group wants snap elections in order to veto the results of the last presidential elections. This is a few of the rich dictating to all of the poor of a Third World country," she said.

Besides, Santiago pointed out, a snap election was nothing but an impeachment process "wearing camouflage clothing."

"What the oligarchs did not achieve with impeachment, they are trying to achieve surreptitiously by snap elections," she said.

On top of this, the government would need at least P5 billion to hold snap elections, said Santiago. "If the Makati Business Club or any other group wants to spend P5 billion for a snap election, they should provide the money."

Sen. Manuel "Mar" Roxas II said he preferred that the government focus its attention on problems that "continue to bedevil the average Filipino."

"So it is not a question of whether there should be a snap election or not. I think that we should resolve the crisis at the soonest possible time, and even if we endeavor to do so, we remain mindful that the average person is suffering a loss of jobs, opportunities and relatively weak economic growth," he said.

Joker hits fascist tilt

Sen. Joker Arroyo slammed the Nov. 30 ultimatum given by the Black and White Movement to De Castro to withdraw his support from Ms Arroyo. The movement is led by 10 former Cabinet secretaries and Palace officials who resigned in July and demanded that Ms Arroyo quit.

"I can neither believe nor imagine that certain responsible groups can be so irresponsible and opinionated as to impudently give Vice President De Castro an ultimatum to distance and dissociate himself from President Arroyo, or else," he said.

"Persons who have fascistic tendencies do give ultimatums. But these people are not fascists, they are progressives. Is their impatience turning them into fascists?" Arroyo said.

Arroyo said De Castro should ignore this group. "They want to run his official life. If he gives in now that he is Vice President, what happens if he becomes President? Unchecked, they will swallow him alive, form a council of interlopers and rule and enslave him from behind."

Free-for-all

The House minority said it would support a presidential election in 2007.

Rep. Rolex Suplico said this would allow Ms Arroyo to seek a fresh mandate.

"If she wins, we will respect that," Suplico said. "We will no longer question her legitimacy." He said the balloting should be a "free-for-all," adding that former Presidents Fidel Ramos and Joseph Estrada should be allowed to participate.

House Minority Leader Francis Escudero believed Ms Arroyo should not run anymore. "Strictly speaking, she can't run anymore. We should go beyond (her). She should step down, bow out and pave the way for a new leadership."

Escudero believed this was the best exit strategy that the opposition could offer to an "illegitimate" president, while Suplico said a snap election was a "better alternative to the crisis we are wallowing in."

South Cotabato Rep. Darlene Antonino-Custodio said Ms Arroyo should support this proposal to settle once and for all the allegation that she had no mandate to sit in Malacañang.

Comelec revamp

"You can't unify under a leadership you can't trust," said Custodio, adding that the opposition would introduce the amendment on the House floor if Ms Arroyo accepted the challenge.

Escudero also called for a top-to-bottom reorganization of the fraud-tainted Commission on Elections.

"If they revamp Comelec, we will have a fighting chance," Suplico said.

Former Sen. Jovito R. Salonga, founder of Kilosbayan and Bantay Katarungan, also called for the immediate dismantling of the Comelec.

He said this is a "must" before any snap election or referendum is held.

"No election or electoral exercise," Salonga said, "would be credible unless the tainted Comelec is thoroughly revamped."

Inquirer wins 4 major Catholic Mass Media Awards

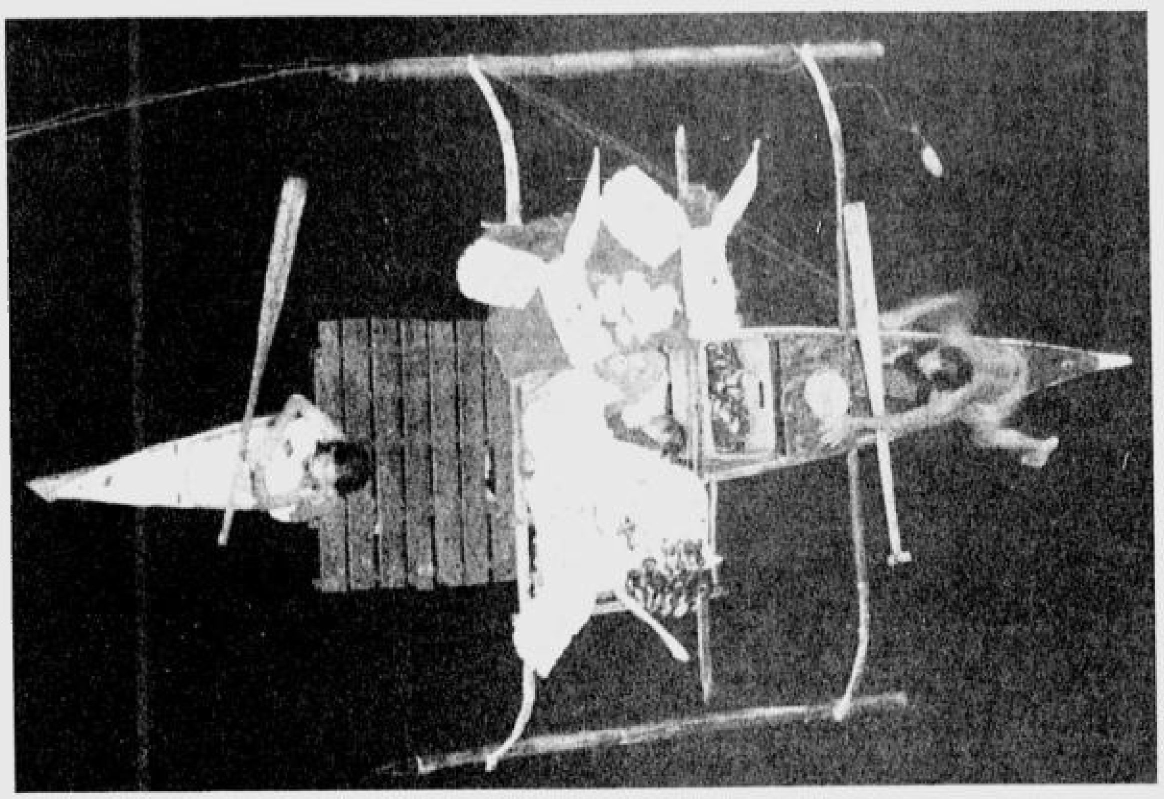
From page A1

technology allowed the media "unprecedented possibilities for good, for spreading the truth of our salvation in Jesus Christ, and for fostering harmony and reconciliation."

Warning on misuse

But Rosales also said that the late Pontiff had warned that "its misuse can do untold harm, giving rise to misunderstanding, prejudice and even conflict."

Vice President Noli de Castro, a former radio and television broadcaster, was guest of honor at the ceremony.



WINNING CMMA news photo titled "Sea Traders" by INQUIRER photographer Edwin Bacasmas.

Inquirer enters world of magazine publishing with joint venture

From page A1

chair; Dave Valdes, president; Poch Bermudez, SVP and general manager; Alex Reyes, SVP and CFO; Paolo Prieto, president, Inquirer Holdings Inc., and Doris Bermudez, sales and events director of HIP.

"It's rare to have this combination of talent, resources and passion for the [magazine] business as we have for Hinge Inquirer Publications," said Valdes.

"It's a symbiotic confluence of many factors. The INQUIRER's experience and resources combined with our people's skills, talents—and with the Lord's help—we could go far," said Bermudez.

HIP seeks to become the best and most influential niche magazine publishing company in the country in the next five years. To achieve this goal, it will bring together the most passionate and respectable people in the field.

In the coming months, HIP expects to launch new titles that would expand and supplement the INQUIRER's efforts to make it the most influential media establishment in the country.

15 Ateneans to be enshrined in memorial

By Fernando P. Hofileña
Contributor

ON NOV. 12, AT A GATHERING ON THE ATENEO de Manila University campus at Loyola Heights, Quezon City, 15 men will be enshrined in the Ateneo Heroes Memorial.

Their names will be added to those of the 112 who have been enshrined there since 1969, the year then Ateneo president Fr. Pacifico Ortiz S.J. had a modest war memorial erected to honor the Ateneans who perished in the Revolutions of 1896 and 1898 and World War II.

Three Jesuits—Fathers James Reuter, Romeo Intengan and Francisco Perez—are among the present honorees.

Reuter, who is currently at the helm of the Catholic Church's National Office of Mass Media, was a prisoner of war of the Japanese interned in Los Baños, Laguna. Through the years, he has imbued his students with heroic ambitions and a passion for excellence as he taught college, coached the Hail Mary Team (the Blue Eagles), directed plays and conducted the Ateneo College Glee Club.

Intengan, former Philippine Provincial of the Society of Jesus, was arrested and detained for two months for taking part in a march protesting electoral fraud and violence committed by the Marcos martial law regime.

Perez was a guerrilla during the Japanese occupation. He was with the Matute Combat Regiment in the Bulacan Military Area headed by Gen. Alejo Santos.

To be enshrined with them are two other living Ateneans—Dr. Alejandro Roces and Antonio Malvar Meer.

Roces was considered the youngest guerrilla when, at 15, he joined Marking Guerrillas in Rizal during WWII. A few years ago, he fearlessly faced hardened criminals, spoke to them about the importance of Literature to the nation and was able to retrieve the original manuscripts of Jose Rizal's Noli Me Tangere, El Filibusterismo and Mi Ultimo Adios that they had stolen.

Meer served the country during and after the Pacific War, joined President Manuel Quezon's organized guerrilla force and founded Handog sa Sundalo Foundation to alleviate the soldiers' poverty.

Among the deceased honorees are those who fought in Bataan and walked the Death March—Antonio Vinluan, Philip Buencamino, Antonio Nieva, Ramon Pamintuan, Oscar Coscolluela and Ramon Diaz, who was tortured by the Japanese for being a member of an intelligence cell that relayed information about the Japanese to the Americans in Australia through the interned Jesuits.

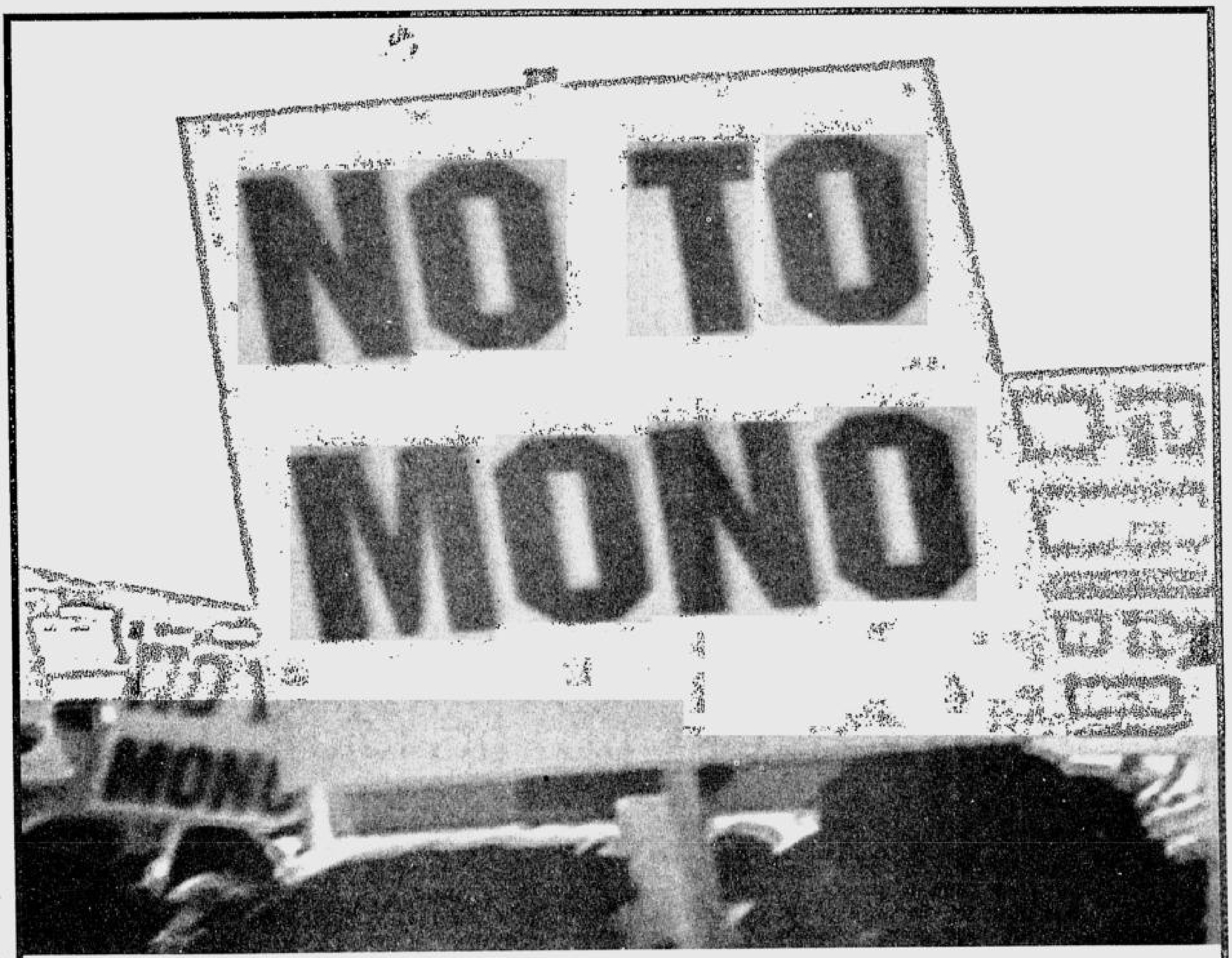
For the first time in the memorial's history, four young Ateneo graduates will be enshrined for their martyrdom during the martial law years. They are Ferdinand Arceo, William Begg, Artemio Celestial Jr. and Abraham Sarmiento Jr.

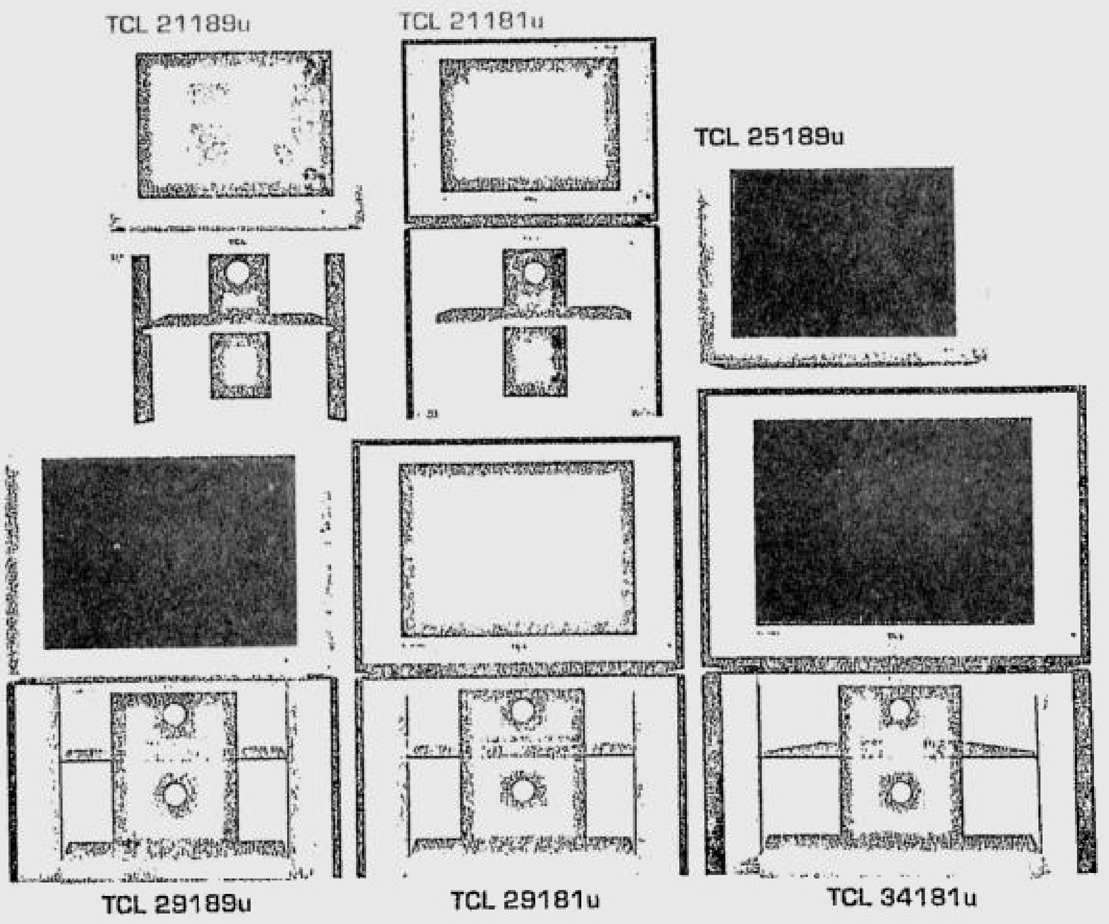
An exhibit of memorabilia belonging to the heroes will open at 1 p.m. on Nov. 12 at the Rizal Library. A documentary on the Legacy of Heroes will be shown, with Ricardo Jose as speaker. The ceremony honoring the heroes at Bellarmine Field will follow at 3 p.m.

Send resumés instantly

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market ONLINE





OUR SCREENS ARE FLAT, BUT NEVER OUR SOUND.
TCL FLAT TVs. ALL STEREO.

On "mono" TVs, it doesn't matter if your VCD/DVD source is stereo – the sound will still come out mono. On the other hand, all **TCL Dynamic Real Flat TVs** have either AV/MTS **STEREO Function** which creates a 2-channel sound that's compatible to the source, allowing you to fully enjoy the stereo sound features of your VCD/DVD material (AV) and stereo broadcast (MTS). Surprisingly affordable, all of our TVs have **STEREO Function**. Just one of **FIVE Superior Smart Features:**

• Digital Curtain that simulates a movie screen • Calendar • AV/MTS Stereo • Reminder Function that lets you write messages on the TV screen • Daily Biological Clock that works like your Feng Shui adviser

Not to mention a 2-Year parts and service warranty. Expect no less from TCL, known as **RCA** in the US and **Thomson** in Europe. No wonder people all over the world are starting to call TCL their "new favorite TV".

Just because a tv is flat doesn't mean it has to sound flat, too. **TCL Dynamic Real Flat TVs**. All flat. All stereo.

SO BEWARE! WHEN NICE-LOOKING FLAT TVs SEEM LIKE A BARGAIN, CHECK THE SOUND. IF IT'S MONO, THINK TWICE. BETTER YET, CHECK OUT A TCL STEREO TV INSTEAD.

TECHNOLOGY TIP

SOURCE	TV	RESULT
VCD/DVD STEREO	MONO TV	MONO SOUND
VCD/DVD STEREO	TCL AV/MTS STEREO	STEREO SOUND

2

TCL
My New Favourite

No legal basis for CPR, Mendiola rally ban—CHR

From page A1

went yesterday to the Manila city prosecutor's office and filed charges of obstruction and illegal assembly against left-wing leaders of Friday's rally.

There is no legal basis to the declaration of Mendiola as a no-rally zone, as well as to the requirement for protesters to seek a permit to rally, or the calibrated preemptive response (CPR) policy, or the use of fire trucks to disperse protesters, said Commissioner Wilhelm Soriano.

Soriano said this consensus was reached during a commission discussion of the Oct. 14 dispersal of a prayer rally near Mendiola.

"We've asked Mayor Lito Atienza by what particular declaration was Mendiola turned into a no-rally zone, but as of this hour, there is no declaration, no local ordinance," he told reporters at the Kapihan sa Maynila.

Even if such a declaration is issued, the CHR can still contend that such an act of the local government violates human rights, Soriano said.

He pointed out a Supreme Court ruling concerning a case where a local ordinance was used to ban protests outside the US Embassy.

Unconstitutional

"Once an ordinance collides with a constitutional guarantee on peaceful assembly, that local ordinance will only serve as a regulatory power of the mayor but not in any way exist as prior restrain to peaceful assembly," he said, referring to the high court's ruling.

Soriano also said the CHR believed the use of water hoses against the protesters was unnecessary.

"There were ongoing negotiations and the crowd was not unruly," he said.

But Supt. Arthur Paglinawan, chief of the Manila Police District (MPD) Assignment Section, said the Friday demonstrators "deceived" authorities when they tried to march on Mendiola. He said their permit was for a rally at Plaza Miranda and Liwasang Bonifacio.

The protesters were calling for the ouster of Ms Arroyo for allegedly stealing last year's election. She has adamantly denied the allegation.

Charged were Party-list Representatives Satur Ocampo, Liza Maza, Crispin Beltran, Rafael Mariano and Teodoro Casiño, and rally leaders Renato Reyes, Carol Araullo, Nathanael Santiago, Antonio Tinio, Ronald Lumbao, Bani Cambronero, Arman Amorillo, Robert de Castro, Cristina Palabay and Raymond Villanueva.

Truncheons for women cops

Supt. Pedro Bulaong, MPD director, also announced yesterday that truncheons would be issued to members of the women police antiriot force.

"At least 26 of our policemen, including uniformed women, were badly hurt during the two consecutive Friday rallies so we believe it's only fair to also give them protection from unruly members of the militant groups," Bulaong said in a statement.

Women police using only shields had been deployed during protests to deflect criticism of police brutality.

The MPD has also filed charges in connection with an earlier protest against Fr. Robert Reyes, Sen. Jamby Madrigal, former Vice President Teofisto Guingona, party-list Representatives Riza Hontiveros and Ocampo, former Pangasinan Gov. Oscar Orbos, Wilson Fortaleza, Rusty Delizo, Sandra Cam and Santiago.

They were accused of obstruction and violation of the Public Assembly Act—each of which carries a prison term of one to six months.

Madrigal's security aides Napoleon Simundo and Reynaldo Nanale, who were caught on video with hand guns, were charged with illegal assembly.

Intolerance fuels strife

Even so, Rep. Antonio Cuenco said Malacañang was "absolutely wrong" in using the "iron hand" against protesters.

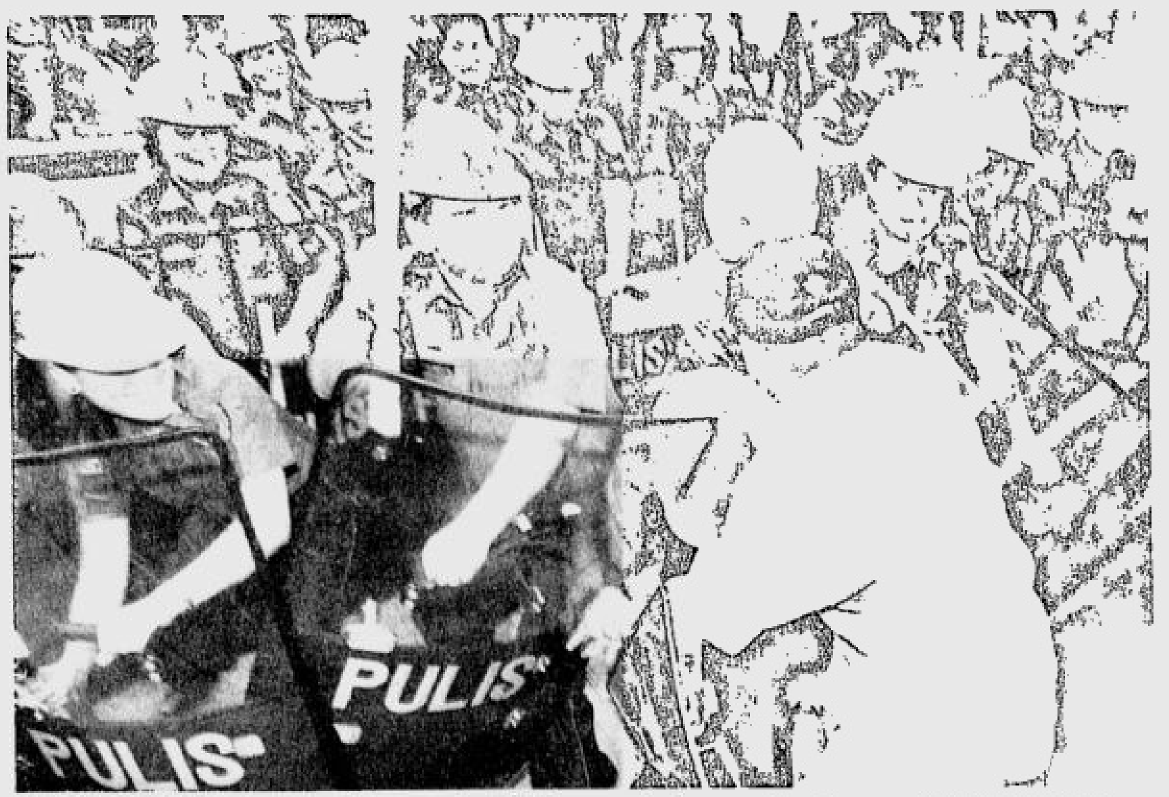
"The wielders of power should be kind and gentle ... History is replete with cases where intolerance spawned the causes of internal strife and eventual downfall of even the most powerful regimes," said Cuenco, a pro-Arroyo lawmaker from Cebu.

In Davao City, Mayor Rodrigo Duterte lambasted Ms Arroyo's CPR policy, even calling those who devised it as "*bugok*" or stupid.

Duterte said the President should scrap it even before it could fuel more criticisms and outrage from the public. He said he never encountered the term CPR back at law school and doubted if the term even existed in law books.

The mayor has allowed protests in Davao City.

"For as long as what they are doing are peaceful demonstrations, they can do it even without asking for a permit ... the people have the constitutional right to assemble. The people have the freedom to express," said Duterte, also an Arroyo supporter. *With reports from Luigi A. del Puerto and Michael Lim Ubac in Manila; and Jeffrey M. Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



ANTIRIOT policewomen test the strength of their group during a mock rally as another officer tries to break their line. The Manila Police District has ordered the return of their truncheons after some of them were injured in Friday's dispersal of demonstrators.

REM ZAMORA

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG PANANALAPI
KAWANIHAN NG RENTAS INTERNAS
QUEZON CITY

October 24, 2005

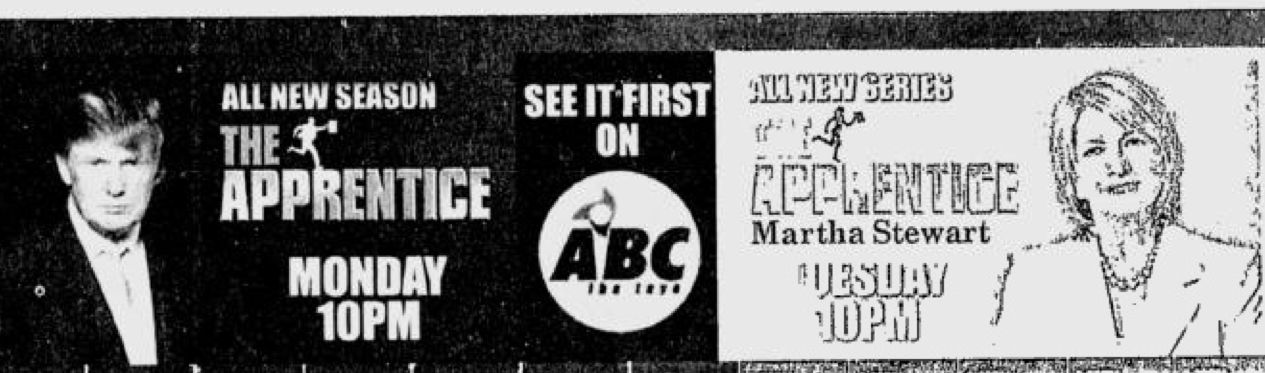
ANNOUNCEMENT

Notice is hereby given to all Internal Revenue Officers and Others Concerned that Revenue Regulations No. 16-2005 dated September 1, 2005 (Consolidated Value-Added Tax Regulations of 2005) was published on Friday, October 21, 2005, Manila Times. For more information and updates, please visit the BIR website at http:www.my.bir.gov.ph or DOF website www.vatreform.gov.ph or call the BIR Contact Center at 981-8888.

(Sgd.) **JOSE MARIO C. BUÑAG**
OIC-Commissioner
of Internal Revenue

(PDI – Oct. 25. 2005)

INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Tuesday, October 25, 2005

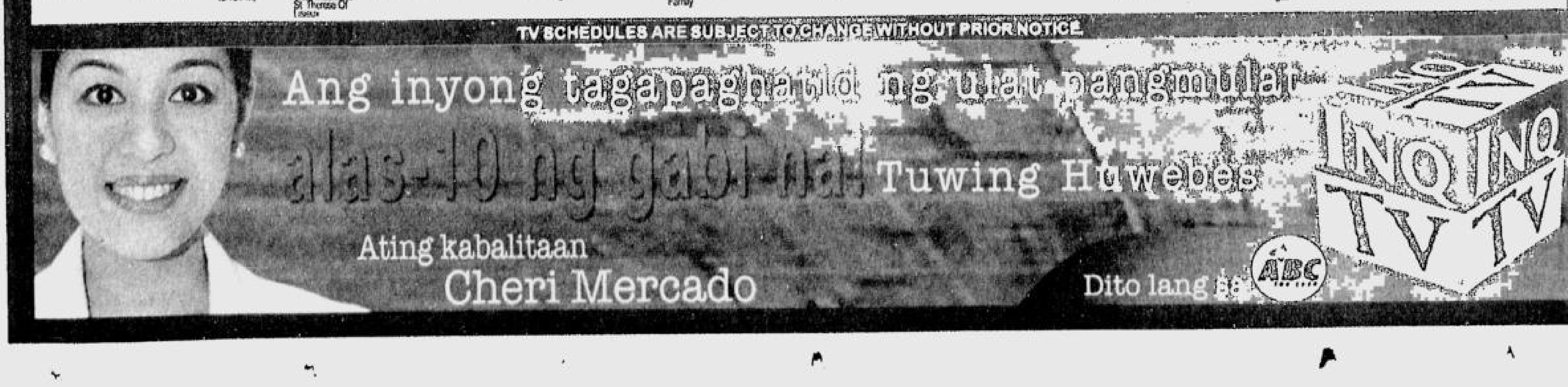


Provided by ClickTheCity.com

For more TV schedules:
1. Visit www.ClickTheCity.com or wap.clickthecity.com.
2. Key in CTC TV and send to 2333 for Globe and to 225 for Smart. PhP2.50 per SMS sent.

Channel	2:30PM	[illegible]	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
NBN		Value Vision		New Life TV Shopping		Teledyaryo	Dyos Ko Mahal Mo Ba Sila?	Tinig ng Bayan (Live)				Teledyaryo				Pilipinas Ngayon Na!		Buhay OCW With Susan K	
ABS-CBN 2	Kapamilya Cinema				Pasion de Amor	Mr. Bean	Naruto	Amazing Twins	Meteor Garden Season 2	TV Patrol World	Mga Anghel Na Walang Langit	Vietnam Rose	Kampanerang Kuba	Ikaw Ang Lahat Sa Akin	Pinoy Big Brother	Bora			Insider
ABC 5			EZ Shop		ESPN or WNCAA Finals				Sentro	Mumbai Thriller	Ang Palapon				Big News	The Apprentice		ALI	
GMA 7	Kung Mamahalin Mo Lang Ako	Now and Forever	Hotelier	12 Kingdoms	Slam Dunk	All For Love		24 Oras		Extra Challenge		Darna	Encantadia	Sugo	Sassy Girl	Bahay Mo Ba 'To?			Saksi
RPN 9	TV Shopping		Defenders Of The Earth	Hey Arnold!	Wild Thornberries	Sponge Bob	Global Battle Of The Bands	Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Real Gilligan's Island		The Cut 1		Paradise Hotel		Newswatch Now	Tuesday Night Treat		
IBC 13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	Pangarap Kong Jackpot		Japan Video Topics		ME TV		Sea Games Special		King Of Adventure	IBC News Tonite	Home Shopping Network	
SBN 21		New Life TV Shop						Winner TV Shopping				Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Music Video		Buhay Pinoy	
Studio 23								Get Backers	Pinoy Big Brother	Wazzup Wazzup	The Rebel Billionaire	Angel		Smallville		News Central	Oprah		Just Shoot Me
MTV Philippines	MTV Screen	Spring Break	Diyes		Punk'D	Pop Inc		MTV Hits				MTV Hits	Get Spotted	TRL		Advance Warning	Pimp My Ride	MTV Hits	VH1 Video Collections
MYX		Rock MYX	My MYX	Mellow MYX	Urban MYX	Take 5	OPM MYX		Star MYX	MYXILOG	Pop MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		Top Of The Pops		Urban MYX	My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX
CNN		Business International		World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		Business International		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		Your World Today	
ESPN					Pool/Snooker World Pool Master '05							Sportscenter Asia						Pool/Snooker World Pool Master '05	
Solar Sports			ATP '05 Gerry Weber Open Singles				KO Sunday: CASTILLO vs. CORRALES					Sports Desk	Sports Desk	US 9 Ball Open 2005				NBA TV Daily	Sports Desk
Sports Plus				NFL 2005										Subway 500 Highlights		Celebrity Poker Tournament			
Cinemax		Purgatory			The Tingler		Hollywood Confidential (5:45 PM)			Anger Management (7:15 PM)				Empire Of The Sun			Agency II (10:35PM)		Dark Skies: The Awakening
Hallmark Channel	Bewitched	Wire In The Blood		HCA: The Fairytaler	Sesame Street		Mad About You	Bewitched	The Nanny	Mysterious Way		Wire In The Blood		The Blackwater Lightship					Mysterious Way
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Art Attack/Untalkative Bunny	Sabrina, The Animated Series	Mickey Mouse and Friends	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	Phil Of The Future	Mickey Mouse and Friends	Chip N Dale's Rescue Rangers	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Discovery Channel		The Pacific War		Journey To The Bottom Of The Sea		Wild Science		Warrior Women With Lucy Lawless Year 2002		Rides		Human Discovery		Wild Discovery		Extreme Survival		Mostly True Stories	
National Geographic		Interpol Investigates		Air Crash Investigation		Is It Real?		Top 5		Wow!		About Asia		Catastrophe Humane Boyd National Geographic Specials DNA Mystery Search For Adam		Interpol Investigates/ 7/7: Attack On London		Air Crash Investigation	
Cartoon Network	Yogi Bear Show	The All New Popeye Show		Tom & Jerry Show	Baby Looney Tunes	What's New Scooby Doo?	Johnny Bravo	Codename: Kids Next Door	Duck Dodgers	SD Gundam Force	Machine Robo-Rescue	The Looney Tunes Show		Courage The Cowardly Dog	What's New Scooby Doo?	Mike, Lu & Og	Time Squad	Codename Kids Next Door	Duck Dodgers
Nickelodeon	Blues Clues/ What Planet Are You From	Rugrats	Hey Arnold!	My Life As A Teenage Robot/ Right On Top	The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob SquarePants	Fairly Odd Parents	All That	Naturally Sadie	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Drake & Josh	Romeo	All Grown Up	As Told By Ginger	Rocket Power	Chalkzone	The Wild Thornberrys	The Angry Beavers	Are You Afraid of the Dark?
Lifestyle Network	Secret Gardens	The Fix	Mission Organization	Carol Duvall	Molto Mario	Hot Off The Grill	Good Eats	Extreme Cuisine	Unwrapped	Passion For Dessert	Second Look		Look For Less	Life & Style		Who's Wedding Is It Anyway?		Road & Track	Back To Basics
Star World	Becker	The Bold & The Beautiful		Hollywood Squares	Whose Line Is It Anyway?	Buffy The Vampire Slayer		The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show	Star News Asia	Friends	Ed		Desperate Housewives		Tru Calling		Friends	Ed
AXN		Lost		Lost		Sports Disasters IV		Beastmaster		Pensacola (Season III)		The Amazing Race Family Edition		David Blaine Magic Man		House		Las Vegas	
JackTV	Family Guy	Just For Laughs (Gags)	Beat The Geeks	WWE Bottomline		WWE Afterburn		X-Play	Banzai	Mad TV		Trigger Happy TV	Primetime Glick	South Park	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Ren & Stimpy Adult Party Cartoon	Family Guy	Wire Heat	
ETC		Good Morning Miami	Knock First	1 Hr Edited Version Of Today Show		Elimidate	Change of Heart	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	JKX	Simple Life	One Tree Hill		For Love Or Money		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	
HBO				Head Of State (3:55 PM)			The Perfect Score (5:35 PM)			Dawn Of The Dead (7:15 PM)				Deadwood 10: Mister Wu		Deadwood 11: Jewel's Boot Is Made For Walking		Doc Hollywood	
Star Movies				Nature Unleashed: Earthquake			Far From Heaven (5:45 PM)				Good Boy!			Ark			Ever After: A Cinderella Story		
Cinema One		Kamagong				Gumapang Ka Sa Lusak				Anghel Na Walang Langit				Wanted Perfect Father				Sa Init ng Apoy	
EWTN	Angels Of God	Angelus (3:15 PM)	Saints For The Third Millennium: St. Therese Of Lisieux	Faith Factory B	Angel Force	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Gallery	Pope John Paul's Legacy To The Family	Pope Pius XII	The Journey Home		Daily Mass Live		Angelus (9:15 PM)	Swear To God	The Sacraments Through The Ages	St. Catherine Of Sienna	Web Of Faith	

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.


Ang inyong tagapaghatid ng ulat pangmulat
alas-10 ng gabi na! Tuwing Huwebes
Ating kabalitaan
Cheri Mercado
Dito lang sa ABC
INQ TV

Opposition leaders attend 'unity Mass'

By Christine O. Avendaño

IT WAS A SUN TZU PRINCIPLE APPLIED: Attack [your enemy] when he is unprepared. Appear when you are not expected.

Apparently using that principle laid down by the 6th-century Chinese military strategist, prominent opposition leaders yesterday succeeded in coming to within meters of the seat of government.

Their unexpected appearance prompted Malacañang officials to deploy more presidential guards and antiriot policemen near the Palace gates.

Leaders and some members of the United Opposition (Uno) were in the vicinity of Malacañang to attend a "Mass for Unity" at the San Miguel parish church, just beyond the gates.

After the Mass, the "invaders," led by Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay, stayed long enough to talk with reporters and pose for pictures.

They called for the establishment of a caretaker council to take over the Arroyo administration.

Malacañang gave the impression it was not in the least bothered by the presence of the Uno leaders in its midst.

"This is a free country, for as long as they don't tie up Manila and cut into the business and safety of the average man or woman who just wants to go about their job and life," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said.

"Maybe if we are here this close, the Palace could better hear us," said former Sen. Vicente Sotto, when asked why the Uno leaders chose the parish church for its Mass.

Sotto, who has gone back to being a comedian after his stint in the Senate, said there was significance in holding a Mass at the church named after the archangel St. Michael.

He said St. Michael was very close to God, having been the one chosen to go after the followers of Lucifer.

St. Michael might just help answer the prayers of the opposition.

"*Baka siya ang malakas ang bulong. Baka pagbulong niya sa Panginoon, Boss, pakinggan ninyo mga Pilipino* (Maybe his whisper carries more weight. Maybe he can whisper to the Lord, 'Boss, please listen to the Filipinos')," Sotto said.

With the Arroyo administration bent on stopping the opposition from holding rallies, Sotto said they were now turning to holding Church masses and concerts in different parts of the country to spread the word against the government.

Declare . . .

From page A1

tial aspirant Elly Pamatong charging back to the Supreme Court with yet another combative petition.

"If there would be a public clamor [for him to run as president again], my father would find it very hard to refuse," San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito, son of the ousted President, told the INQUIRER yesterday.

Pamatong, who had won notoriety as "the spike boy" for claiming to have masterminded the spreading of metal spikes on Edsa in a protest action, filed an urgent petition asking the high court to declare the presidency vacant on grounds that President Macapagal-Arroyo had become "permanently morally disabled."

Calling himself a "victim of constructive martial law," Pamatong also asked the court to call on the military to hold snap elections, instead of the Commission on Elections.

The reactions were provoked by suggestions from several religious and civic leaders for the calling of special elections in 2007 to resolve the country's seemingly intractable political crisis.

Ejercito said his father, under house arrest while on trial for plunder, was now "physically stronger" after his successful knee surgery.

Emotionally recharged, too

Estrada, ousted in a 2001 "People Power" uprising, is also now "emotionally recharged" after everything he has gone through in his political career, the son said.

On top of that, Ejercito said, his father was now "spiritually ready ... [having gotten] closer to the Lord because of his detention."

"The snap election will be a good opportunity to cleanse the country, which Ms Arroyo has wrecked," Ejercito said.

He said his father was ready to serve the country again "in whatever way he can."

But "the people should be the ones to convince him to run again as president," Ejercito said.

Estrada's seemingly renewed interest in reclaiming Malacañang contrasted with the apparent disinterest he showed earlier this year.

In July, amid calls for movie actress Susan Roces to lead the opposition, Estrada had indicated he was no longer interested in regaining the presidency but would support whoever was chosen by the people.

"I categorically state that I am not after regaining the lost stolen years of my legitimate presidency," he said then.

'Protector of the people'

In his petition, Pamatong urged the Supreme Court to also declare the vice presidency vacant and to call on the Armed Forces to serve as "protector of the people."

He filed his petition on behalf of his group that he calls the Discovery Crusade of the Philippines Inc., and the "suffering people of the motherland ... [and the] oppressed masses."

Pamatong claimed the apology that Ms Arroyo made to the nation in July for calling an election official before the proclamation of a winner in the 2004 polls was a plea of guilt to having rigged the election.

Pamatong also described Ms Arroyo as "more notorious than Lucifer in this land."

"Many people want to lynch her," he said.

Pamatong himself aspired for the presidency but was disqualified for being a nuisance candidate.

In July, he drew headlines when he said he had written the US Embassy offering to send his bodyguards to fight in Iraq.

Pamatong said that since Vice President Noli de Castro was the running mate of Ms Arroyo, "it goes without saying that he, too, was a part of the derailment of our democratic electoral processes."

Once the two top executive posts have been declared vacant, Pamatong said the high tribunal should call on the military to hold snap elections.

"Since the Comelec is perceived to be a curse rather than a blessing to the people, the most acceptable and viable option is for this court to set Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution in motion by declaring that it is time for the Armed Forces to perform its constitutional mandate as protector of the people," he said.

Former Sen. Jovito Salonga, in a statement, said an immediate revamp of the Comelec was a "must" before any snap election could be held.

No election would be credible unless the tainted Comelec was thoroughly overhauled, said Salonga, a longtime fighter of corruption in government. *With a report from Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

IWATA ALMOST 20 YEARS IN THE MARKET NOW
TIME RECORDERS
CW-1A P12,850
E2A P9,800
CH-1A P8,850
1/2color ribbon, int/ext melody, 6cols printing, operates during brownouts
PROJECTOR IWATA-3F P5,985
SEALERS IMPULSE & DIRECT
HAND SEALER 8" - P575 4" - P470
14" FOOT SEALER P8,905
MINERAL WATER POT 6 Steps Filtration 15Lits. caps P1,250
IWATA LAMINATOR 6.5"-3,500 / 2,300 6.2"-2,050 12"-3,060, 12.5"-8,350 15"-7,950
IWATA STAMPING MACHINE (Date, Month, Year, Time & Co. Name) P15,900
IWATA MONEY COUNTER w/ UV detector 6,950
PAPER SHREDDER CROSS CUT, Can shred Credit Cards, CD'S & Staple Wire (S-1600) 2,850 8,600
HAND DRYER PUSH BUTTON P5,700 AUTOMATIC P6,700
IWATA INDT'L FAN HEAVY DUTY & STEEL BLADES 20" Diameter P3,850 26" Diameter P3,980
SOLE DISTRIBUTOR: COLENT ENT. CO.
Tels.: 412-4317, 740-3815, 742-8138/39/40, 742-8142, 411-2306 TO 98 Fax: 411-2399

caraboy® Pasaganahin ang inyong Ani
"Ang Pinakabagong Teknolohiya sa Pagsasaka"
SPECIAL FOR IRRIGATION (PALAYAN) 1 hectar a day
Sulong Magsasaka!
○ 1 SET CARABOY W/ DIESEL ENGINE 3HP PHP 19,000.00
○ TRAILER PHP 4,000.00
○ WHEELED TRACTOR 65HP
with: •PLOW •COMB HARROW (suyod) •ROTAVATOR
1 YEAR WARRANTY
ISO 9002 CERTIFIED
FREE DELIVERY TO PIER
FOR INQUIRIES CONTACT:
GOLDEN HARVEST GLOBAL CORPORATION
Website: www.caraboy.net
•Tels.: (02) 242-9999 / 245-9961
•Fax: (02) 521-4021
•Cell. No.: 0920-9500667

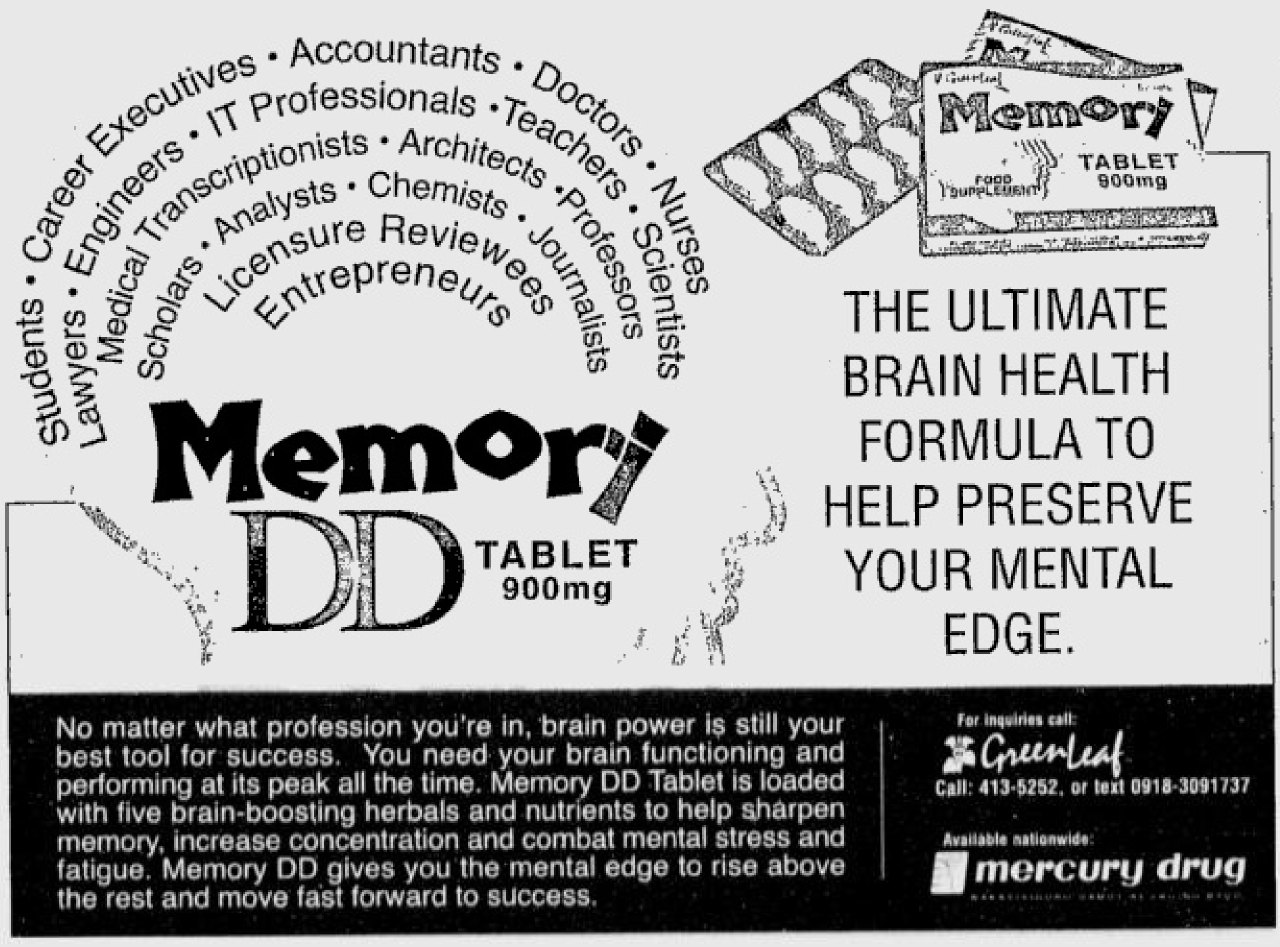
ACTEL Communication Trading
Unit 203 MARVIC Bldg., 254 Mc Arthur Highway, Karuhatan Valenzuela City
Tel. No. 440-23-47/ 445-92-29/ 446-30-34
CCTV Security System
₱9,500
PROMO PACKAGE FREE INSTALLATION
• Standard Colored Camera
• Dome Colored Camera
• Audio/ Video Switcher
FREE DEMO
PABX
PANASONIC Telephone PABX System 3CO Lines, 8 Locals
₱15,300

VIPER AUTO GATE
Swing-P35,000
Swing-P45,000
This rainy season, convert your gate to remote controlled.
You won't get wet opening your gate!
For Free Installation Call:
886-6696,788-0221
Available @ MC Home Depot Fort, Ortigas & Mkt.
Cebu Home & Builders Center-(032)346-5498

MUST IN EVERY BUSINESS!
We Offer The World's Most Trusted High Pressure Washers & Vacuum Cleaners!
Elite
Mitho Plus
Optima
Silver Jet
* Hose Reel Optional
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
FROM THE #1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
Exclusively Distributed By:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
Major Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
MAIN OFFICE:1851 M.Orosa St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCH: 646 Quezon Ave. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

TRIED & TESTED THRU THE YEARS!
Keep the spirit of ALL SAINTS' DAY warm and close with all-purpose tents from Tenthaus.
Accept no substitute! Don't be taken in by here-today-gone-tomorrow tent merchants.
We do custom-built :
• Awnings • Canopies •
Car Tents • Camping Tents
• Playground Equipment
FOR RENT: PARTY TENTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
tenthaus
The Pioneer The Leader
Main Office :
2/F VILLAFUERTE 111 BLDG.
279 ALABANG-ZAPOTE ROAD
(FRONTING EVER - GOTESCO)
TEL.: 872-3788
872-9067
Branches :
27 KAMIAS RD., QUEZON CITY
TEL.: 922-0432
#1140 PASONG TAMO near cor.
KAMAGONG ST., MAKATI CITY
TEL.: 895-5484
Fax No.: 872-2332
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS HONORED

2006 ADVANCED PRE-BAR REVIEW
SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS
NOVEMBER 12, 2005 to APRIL 2, 2006
EMILIO AGUINALDO COLLEGE (EAC)
Near cor. United Nations Ave. and Taft Ave.
Ermita, Manila
PROF. SAMSON S. ALCANTARA
REVIEW DIRECTOR
ENROL AT:
ALCANTARA LAW OFFICE: SUITE 1402, MANILA ASTRAL TOWER, 1330 TAFT AVENUE CORNER PADRE FAURA STREET, ERMITA, MANILA
TEL. NOS.: 521-6984/526-4791
FREE HANDOUTS; ENROLMENT FEE INCLUDES PRE-WEEK REVIEW IN SEPTEMBER, 2006
* * * * *
LEX MCLE SEMINAR
The Lex Reviews and Seminars, Inc. has been accredited as a provider in the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Program. LEX Board of Directors is composed of Prof. Samson S. Alcantara, Dean Ed Vincent S. Albano, Dean Eduardo JF. Abella, Prof. Abelardo T. Domondon and Dean Carlos M. Ortega.
LEX MCLE Seminar is set in Cagayan de Oro City on October 27 and 28, 2005. Tel. No. (08822)725150/09209254599, Atty. Mart Maandig.
* * * * *
LEX CEBU 2006 ADVANCED PRE-BAR REVIEW AT SOUTHWESTERN UNIV.
ORGELLO STREET, CEBU CITY
TEL. NOS. (032) 4187077/4155555 (LOC. 306)
NOVEMBER 19, 2005 TO APRIL 2, 2006
SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS


Students • Career Executives • Accountants • Doctors • Nurses • Scientists
Lawyers • Engineers • IT Professionals • Teachers • Professors • Journalists
Medical Transcriptionists • Architects
Scholars • Analysts • Chemists
Licensure Reviewees
Entrepreneurs
Memori DD TABLET 900mg
Memori TABLET 900mg FOOD SUPPLEMENT
THE ULTIMATE BRAIN HEALTH FORMULA TO HELP PRESERVE YOUR MENTAL EDGE.
No matter what profession you're in, brain power is still your best tool for success. You need your brain functioning and performing at its peak all the time. Memory DD Tablet is loaded with five brain-boosting herbals and nutrients to help sharpen memory, increase concentration and combat mental stress and fatigue. Memory DD gives you the mental edge to rise above the rest and move fast forward to success.
For inquiries call:
Greenleaf
Call: 413-5252, or text 0918-3091737
Available nationwide:
mercury drug

polymutan GERMAN-MADE
Powerful German Connections
While there are many water piping systems in the market, Polymutan offers the truly ideal solution to your piping needs.
Polymutan, which is made in Germany, gives you a world-class product. And, Polymutan uses only ***100%*** polypropylene ***virgin*** plastic so you get cleaner, more efficient, longer-lasting water connections.
Our Technical Support Team will be on-hand to help you expertly install Polymutan.
• No plastic taste
• No G.I. "tubo" taste
Leak Proof
Genuinely German-made
Exclusively Distributed By:
CAMP MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT, INC.
204 D. Tuazon St. corner Sta. Catalina St., Quezon City Philippines
Tel. Nos.: 740-0510; 741-5401; 414-4811
e-mail: campmktg@mindgate.net
Cebu Dealer: PHOENIX BUILDING SYSTEM
Tel. No.: 032-2331101

No survivors in Nigeria air crash

LISSA, NIGERIA—ALL 117 PEOPLE ON BOARD A Nigerian airliner died when the Boeing 737 crashed and disintegrated in flames shortly after takeoff from Lagos airport, the government confirmed on Sunday.

Dismembered and burned body parts, fuselage fragments and engine parts were strewn over an area the size of a football field near the village of Lissa, about 30 km north of Lagos.

"The Federal Government announces with regret the unfortunate air crash of Bellview Airlines ... which resulted in the loss of life of all passengers and crew on board," a government statement released late on Sunday said.

A senior police official at the scene said: "The aircraft has crashed and it is a total loss. We can't even see a whole human body."

Bellview Airlines flight 210 left Lagos at 8:45 p.m. (1945 GMT) on Saturday night on a scheduled flight to the capital Abuja and lost contact minutes later during a heavy electrical storm.

The pilot made a distress call after takeoff, indicating the plane had a technical problem, a source at the presidency told Reuters.

The plane crashed not long after, leaving a smoking 20-meter crater in the marshy earth, uprooted trees and blew the roofs off nearby houses.

A wig, human intestines, clothes, foam seats and a hand were visible wedged in the sodden earth. A check for 948,000 naira ($7,300) from the evangelical Deeper Life church was one of a number of personal papers found in the smoldering wreckage.

The plane was carrying 111 passengers and six crew, the Federal Airport Authority said.

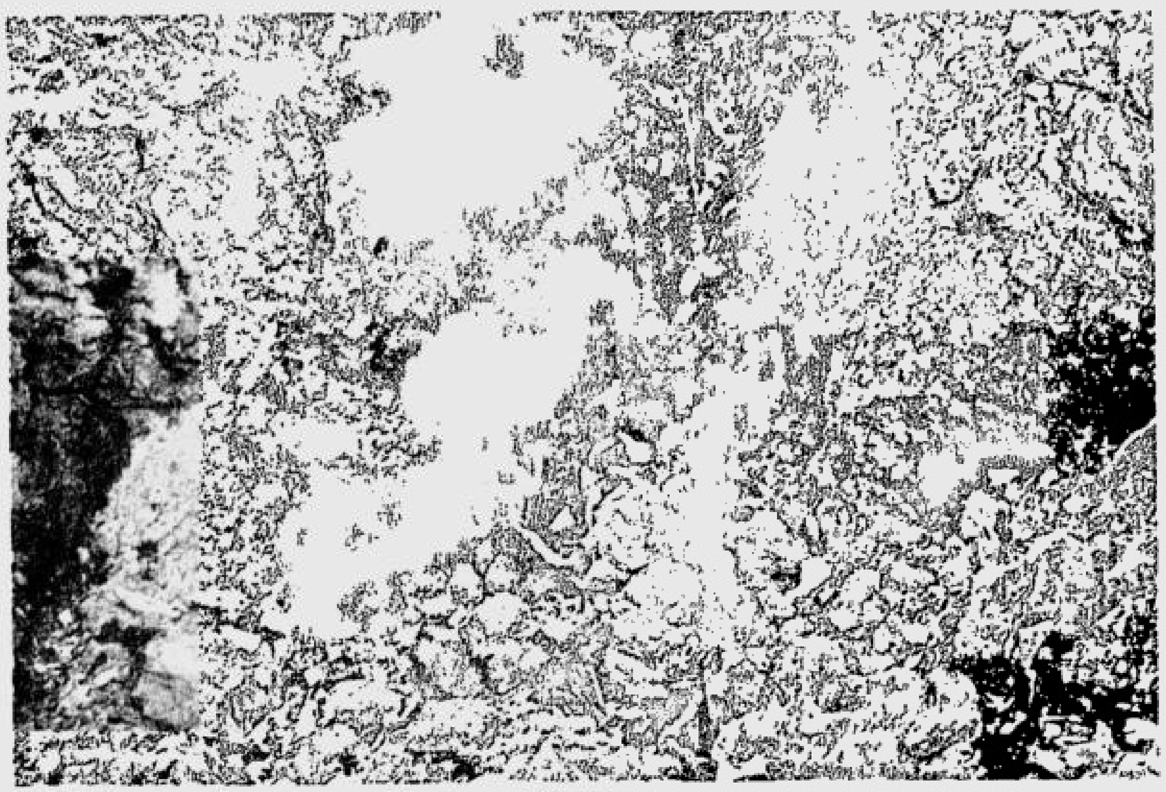
A US official confirmed that a US military officer was aboard the aircraft. Diplomats and airline officials said it was also believed to be carrying a top official of the Economic Community of West African States, a Nigerian presidential aide, two Britons and a German.

"It would be a miracle if anyone survived," one man at the crash site said.

Distraught relatives wailed and prayed at Lagos airport as a Bellview Airlines official read out a list of passengers. The list may not be entirely accurate because tickets are often transferred between people in Nigeria, the official said.

State television said the nation would hold three days of mourning for the dead.

The route the airliner was taking is heavily travelled, with dozens of flights each day between the port of Lagos—one of the world's biggest cities—and Abuja in the heart of Africa's most populous nation.


SMOKE rises from the crater carved by a downed Nigerian airliner at the crash site in Ijoko Ota in southwestern Nigeria Oct. 23. All 117 people on board the Boeing 737 died when it crashed and disintegrated in flames shortly after takeoff from Lagos airport, the government confirmed on Sunday. REUTERS

Aviation analysts said the fact the aircraft was at least 20 years old may have been a factor in the crash, but asked why there was so much confusion and delay in finding the crash site.

In the early hours after the crash reports conflicted.

Government television regulator Nigeria Broadcasting Commission said it would suspend the operations of AIT television for showing explicit images of the crash scene and delivering what it called unsubstantiated information on the disaster to the public.

Bellview Airlines is a privately owned Nigerian airline and is popular with expatriates. It recently began international flights to India and London.

In Seattle, Boeing spokesperson Liz Verdier said the company would work with the US National Transportation Safety Board if the board was asked to help with any investigation in Nigeria.

She said the 737 was the "workhorse of the world commercial jet fleet." *Reuters*

Wilma strengthens, lashes Florida

KEY WEST, FLA.—A STRENGTHening Hurricane Wilma lashed southern Florida on Monday as it raced toward the densely populated Miami area after pounding Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and killing 17 people on a rampage through the Caribbean.

At one point the most intense hurricane on record in the Atlantic, Wilma weakened after hammering Cancun and Cozumel for three days with punishing winds and rains, destroying homes and ruining luxury hotels.

But the vast and menacing storm's maximum sustained winds strengthened to 193 kph overnight as it roared toward Florida, where storm-weary residents largely ignored evacuation orders. Wilma was a Category 3 storm, capable of causing extensive damage.

"We were hoping that it would weaken some before it makes landfall," Max Mayfield, director of the US National Hurricane Center, told Miami's WFOR television. "We're not certain that will happen now."

The center of the storm was expected to come ashore in Florida around daybreak near the wealthy city of Naples on the southwest coast.

Hurricane-force wind gusts from the large storm were already hitting parts of the lower Florida Keys, with a gust of 122 kph reported at Key West, the hurricane center said. *Reuters*

You like what you see.
You'll love what it can do.

Open a fully-loaded Express Teller deposit account and experience convenience like never before.

With valuable features that make it easier for you to pay your bills from over 200 merchants, go cashless shopping in more than 8,200 accredited establishments nationwide, transfer funds, and reload your cellphone and prepaid card, 24/7.

With easy account access in over 3,000 BPI Express Teller, Expressnet and Megalink ATMs nationwide and more than 800,000 Cirrus/Maestro ATMs in 100 countries around the world.

With multiple ways to do your banking – online, by landline or mobile phone, and through BPI's widespread Express Banking Centers – so you can transact anytime, anywhere at your convenience.

And now, with a bold new look* that commands attention.

BPI Express Teller. Definitely unequalled.

Open for only ₱500!

BPI Express Teller
International
589559 1915 0245 44
TONI MARTINEZ
01

Visit any BPI, BPI Family Savings Bank branch
or Express Banking Center now.
Call 89-100 or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com

* The new card design is initially available in Metro Manila.

BPI Express Teller
WITHOUT A DOUBT. WITHOUT EQUAL.

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE
BPI FAMILY SAVINGS
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Ins

3 car bombs hit Iraq cities; US deaths rise

BAGHDAD—AT LEAST THREE CAR BOMBS and several roadside bombs hit US and Iraqi security forces in Baghdad and the northern city of Kirkuk on Sunday, killing at least eight people and wounding dozens more, Iraqi police said.

The past 10 days have seen a relative lull in violence despite a constitutional referendum on Oct. 15 and the start of Saddam Hussein's trial for crimes against humanity. But US commanders have warned of more attacks in the run-up to Dec. 15 elections that they fear insurgents will try to disrupt.

The US military death toll in Iraq is approaching the psychological landmark of 2,000, focusing attention on the security situation more than 2-1/2 years after the US-led invasion. The toll stood at 1,996 on Sunday afternoon.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Washington was determined to face down the insurgency and build Iraq into a stable, democratic ally.

"It is absolutely the case that you have evil men, violent men, who seem determined to try to throw this off course. But they haven't been able to," she told BBC television in an interview.

Britain's ambassador in Baghdad urged the Shiite-led Iraqi government to mount an inquiry into accusations its security forces operate clandestine "death squads" against minority Sunni Arabs—who are blamed for most of the insurgent violence.

In the first of Sunday's attacks, a car bomb killed four people, including two police officers, when it exploded near an Iraqi police patrol in central Baghdad. The blast also injured 14 others, both police and civilians.

Another car bomb in the northeastern Zaiuna district of the capital targeted a US patrol of three Humvee armored vehicles, according to Iraqi police who said at least three US soldiers were wounded and one Humvee was set alight. There was no immediate confirmation from the US military.

Iraqi police also reported that one US soldier was killed and one wounded when a roadside bomb hit a US patrol in central Baghdad. The US military had no immediate information.

About 150,000 US troops remain in Iraq, battling an insurgency by those who oppose the Shiite- and Kurdish-led government and its US backers.

In Kirkuk on Sunday, seven Iraqi civilians were wounded when a car driven by a suicide bomber rammed a US Humvee, Iraqi police said. There was no immediate word from the US military on whether there were any US casualties.

Another Iraqi was killed and three wounded by a roadside bomb in Kirkuk, police colonel Taha Abdulla said, while other attacks in Baquba and Tikrit killed two Iraqi police officers.

Britain's Sunday Telegraph reported a secret poll said to have been commissioned by British defense leaders that showed 45 percent of Iraqis believe attacks on US and British troops are justified. Eighty-two percent of those polled said they were "strongly opposed" to the presence of the troops. *Reuters*

ILLUSTRATED THAI

Wongmanee Rojpaisan, a 30-year-old Thai woman, displays a tattoo on her back during the MBK Tattoo Contest 2005 at a shopping mall in Bangkok Oct. 24. REUTERS

Brazil voters strongly reject gun ban

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL—FROM sprawling cities plagued by violence to the backwaters of the Amazon, Brazilians voted decisively on Sunday to keep gun sales legal in the country with the world's highest death toll from firearms.

About 64 percent rejected banning arms sales in the nationwide referendum, the electoral court said, with more than 90 percent of the expected 122 million votes counted.

Only 36 percent supported the ban, even though some 36,000 people were killed by guns last year in Latin America's largest country. Full results were expected on Monday.

"We didn't lose because Brazilians like guns. We lost because people don't have confidence in the government or the police," said Denis Mizne of anti-violence group Sou da Paz.

Many voters had expressed concern before the vote that a ban would leave them defenseless against heavily armed criminals. Public confidence is low in a police force widely seen as inefficient, abusive and corrupt.

"This referendum ... is not going to end violence," said Assis Augusto Pires, 60, who voted against the ban in Sao Paulo's wealthy Jardim Paulistano district, where high walls, electrified fences and private guards protect residents.

In Rio de Janeiro's Rocinha shantytown, scene of a raging gangland turf war, Carlos Eduardo Ferreira, a 40-year-old electrician, said he was voting for the ban.

"I am for the ban; I am for life. I've already seen kids hit by bullets here," he said. *Reuters*

Conservative Warsaw mayor wins Polish presidential runoff

WARSAW, POLAND—TOUGH-talking Warsaw Mayor Lech Kaczynski of the socially conservative Law and Justice Party came from behind to win Poland's presidential runoff, propelled to victory with the support of the nation's poorer voters and farmers.

With 91 percent of the votes counted from Sunday's runoff, Kaczynski led rival Donald Tusk of the pro-market Civic Platform party, 55.5 percent to 44.5 percent, according to the State Election Commission.

Kaczynski's victory clears the way for the start of coalition talks Monday between the two right-of-center parties which are allies, and have said they intend to form a government together after winning a combined majority in the Sept. 25 parliamentary election.

The 56-year-old Kaczynski told Monday's issue of the Rzeczpospolita daily that he plans to quit as Warsaw mayor after the city's 2006 budget is drafted, but he gave no date. Kaczynski is to be sworn in as president on Dec. 23.

Kaczynski also vowed his presidency will be more "active, especially on internal issues," than his predecessor's administration.

"It will certainly be more active than that of Aleksander Kwasniewski."

Kaczynski sought to dissipate rising fears that his victory, which puts both government and the presidency in the hands of the Law and Justice party, may disturb the coalition.

"I believe the coalition will take form and Donald Tusk will continue to be an influential politician in Poland," he told Rzeczpospolita. In the previous parliament Tusk served as deputy speaker. *AP*

SLANDS
BANK
for Each Depositor P250,000.00

THE NEW BPI EXPRESS TELLER:
ALL THE CONVENIENCE,
ALL NEW LOOK.

The first thing you'll notice is how cool the overall blue hue looks. Then your eyes move to those dynamic circles and how they accentuate the overall look. This is how refreshing the new card design of the BPI EXPRESS TELLER ATM card is.

But with BPI, like always, there's more than meets the eye.

EXPERIENCE FULLY-LOADED CONVENIENCE

Remember how tempers flare with long lines at bills payment counters?

Those days are over.

With an Express Teller account, you can easily pay your utilities, credit cards, loans, insurance and other bills from over 200 merchants. You can pay via the ATM, through the Internet, through your landline or mobile phone, anytime. The payment amount will simply be charged to your Express Teller account.

Now, if shopping is your pleasure, try doing it without cash. Using your Express Teller card, you can go cashless shopping in more than 8,200 Express Payment System (EPS) accredited establishments nationwide. The cashier will simply swipe your ATM card in the Point-of-Sale terminal (POS) to automatically debit your purchases from your account.

Transferring funds is even a cinch.

You see, you can do fund transfers via the ATM, by landline or cellphone, or through the Internet. Same thing goes for reloading your prepaid cellphone.

Now, when you need to check out your account, you need not worry either.

You have banking access in over 3,000 BPI Express Teller, Expressnet and Megalink ATMs nationwide, and more than 800,000 Cirrus/Maestro ATMs in 100 countries around the world. You can also visit our Express Banking Centers, which are open even on weekends, in malls and other popular places.

But the goods don't end there.

EXPERIENCE FULLY-LOADED FREEBIES, PERKS AND MORE

Enjoying fully-loaded convenience is just the tip of the iceberg, so to speak—there's so much more. If you're an SM shopper, you're really going to fall in love with this. Your Express Teller card automatically entitles you to join EXPRESS REBATE, EXPRESS PRIZE at SM Department Stores.

When you make any EPS transaction with your Express Teller card at any SM Department Store from October 8 to December 8, 2005, you get to enjoy a 1% rebate on your purchases. The rebate is automatically applied to your EPS purchases

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.5669 Series of 2005.

SAVINGS AND DATES AT THE MOVIES

More than that, a minimum of P7,000 worth of accumulated or single-receipt EPS transactions during the promo period will entitle you to two (2) free Premiere SM Movie Cards. You can redeem your Premiere Movie Cards at BPI branches or Express Banking Centers located within the SM Malls by presenting the EPS transaction slips and your BPI Express Teller card.

To get your ticket, proceed to any SM Cinema ticket booth and surrender the Premiere Movie Cards. SM Cinema ticket booths are open Mondays - Sundays from 10am to 9pm at the following SM Malls: SM Megamall, SM Manila, SM SouthMall, SM Fairview, SM North Edsa, SM San Lazaro, SM Bicutan, SM Sucat, SM Centerpoint, SM Bacoor, SM Pampanga, SM Marilao, SM Dasmariñas, SM Lucena, SM Baguio, SM Batangas, SM Iloilo, SM Davao, SM Cebu, SM Batangas, and SM Cagayan de Oro.

The free Premiere SM Movie Cards are accepted in any SM Cinema nationwide for one-time use only at any regular screening schedule. Movie cards are not allowed during Advanced Screenings.

DISCOUNTS AND FREEBIES AT SELECTED ESTABLISHMENTS

Aside from SM Department Stores, you still get to enjoy perks—EPS POWER PERKS, that is, from other stores.

Simply visit and use EPS at the following establishments to enjoy power perks such as discounts and free premium items or free service:

- Apres Salon & Nail Spa
- Ayala Museum
- David's Salon and Red Salon
- Fine Leatherware
- Folded & Hung
- Goodwill Bookstore
- Island Cove Resorts
- Jelly Bean Fashion
- JF Lazartigue
- K & Company
- Penstar Sports/Lacoste Footwear
- Powerbooks
- PrettyFIT and Beetlebug Boutique
- Red Ribbon Bakeshop
- The Suriya Spa
- True Value Hardware

Per DTI-NCR Permit No 5980 Series of 2005.

GET A CHANCE TO WIN HALF A MILLION PESOS IN CASH

Want to win half a million pesos? Use your Express Teller card for your purchases.

With BPI EPS' P500,000 Rush promo, your P500 single receipt EPS purchase from August 11, 2005 to May 15, 2006 earns you a chance to win P500,000 cash to be credited to your account.

There will also be 3 winners of P50,000, 10 winners of P5,000 worth of gift certificates from Robinsons, while 10 lucky cardholders will win a P1,000 gift certificate from Red Ribbon.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.1016 Series of 2005.

TRULY WITHOUT EQUAL

The best thing is that all these perks and privileges are now available to you when you open a BPI Express Teller Savings Account at an amazingly low P500 initial deposit!

If you're an existing Express Teller cardholder already, these rewards are yours to enjoy by just using your Express Teller card.

Without a doubt, only the BPI EXPRESS TELLER can give you fully-loaded convenience, freebies, and perks that are truly, without equal.

Open a BPI Express Teller account today—you're going to love it.

ISSN 0116-2642 INQUIRER Vol. 20 No. 319
Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

OPINION

Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•100% soy ink•

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
City Editor GERRY LIRIO
Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Executive Vice President DAVID O. VALDES
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TIROL
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph
Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342; Cell Phone No. 0917-805-7412

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Hardly a snap

EDITORIAL

THE PROPOSED SNAP PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION looks like a quick and easy solution to the current political instability. But a closer examination of the proposal will show that it is not as easy to bring about as it seems.

For one, it will be opposed strongly by President Macapagal-Arroyo who will consider it as tantamount to a call for her to resign. And we know that she has consistently resisted all calls for her to quit the presidency.

Second, if it is opposed by the President, we can be sure that it will be opposed also by her allies in Congress, and so even if Congress were to convene itself into a constituent assembly, the body will vote down the proposal.

Third, assuming that the snap election proposal is approved, it will take time to clean up the Augean stable that is the Commission on Elections to insure that a clean, orderly and credible presidential election is held. A constitutional amendment may have to be made or a law passed to insure the integrity of the work done by the Comelec.

Fourth, billions, if not tens of billions, of pesos will be spent to achieve just one purpose, the approval of a so-called "bullet amendment" to the Constitution. If we are going to spend billions, we might as well amend all the provisions of the Constitution that need to be amended.

So there's the new proposal for a snap presidential election, and there's the "old" plan to amend the Constitution and shift to a parliamentary-federal system of government. The great majority of those in government appear to be in favor of the old proposal. Even Malacañang has called for a national debate on the proposals to amend the Constitution.

The same objective—to get the President to cut her term—can be achieved by having the entire Constitution changed. It may take a longer time, but the same aim can be accomplished. We're not saying that she's entitled to it, but Charter change will give her a graceful exit, and she can be expected to convince her political allies to bring it about with a minimum of resistance.

The late dictator Ferdinand E. Marcos did not have any problem with calling a snap election in late 1985. He was being interviewed on American television by Ted Koppel when, suddenly, out of the blue, he announced that he was calling a snap presidential election, ostensibly to prove that he still had the support of the great majority of the people. He was so sure that he could again manipulate the election to serve his ends. But events later proved that he was terribly wrong, and ultimately he was driven out of office and forced to go into exile in Hawaii.

President Arroyo may be seeing a lesson in Marcos' experience with a snap election and can be expected to resist the snap poll proposal. As of now she enjoys the upper hand, even in the midst of a shaky and troubled political situation. So why risk everything on a snap presidential election which she could lose?

We've said this before: Now is an auspicious time to amend the Constitution, a long, prolix document that needs many amendments. But let's not do it piecemeal, just to satisfy certain sectors that want a quick solution to a festering political problem. If the majority of those in the government and the majority of the people want a shift to the federal-parliamentary system, then let's begin working to bring about that change. A thorough, complete examination of the Constitution should, in the long run, be more economical, workable and feasible than a piecemeal revision.

Threat to Hollywood?

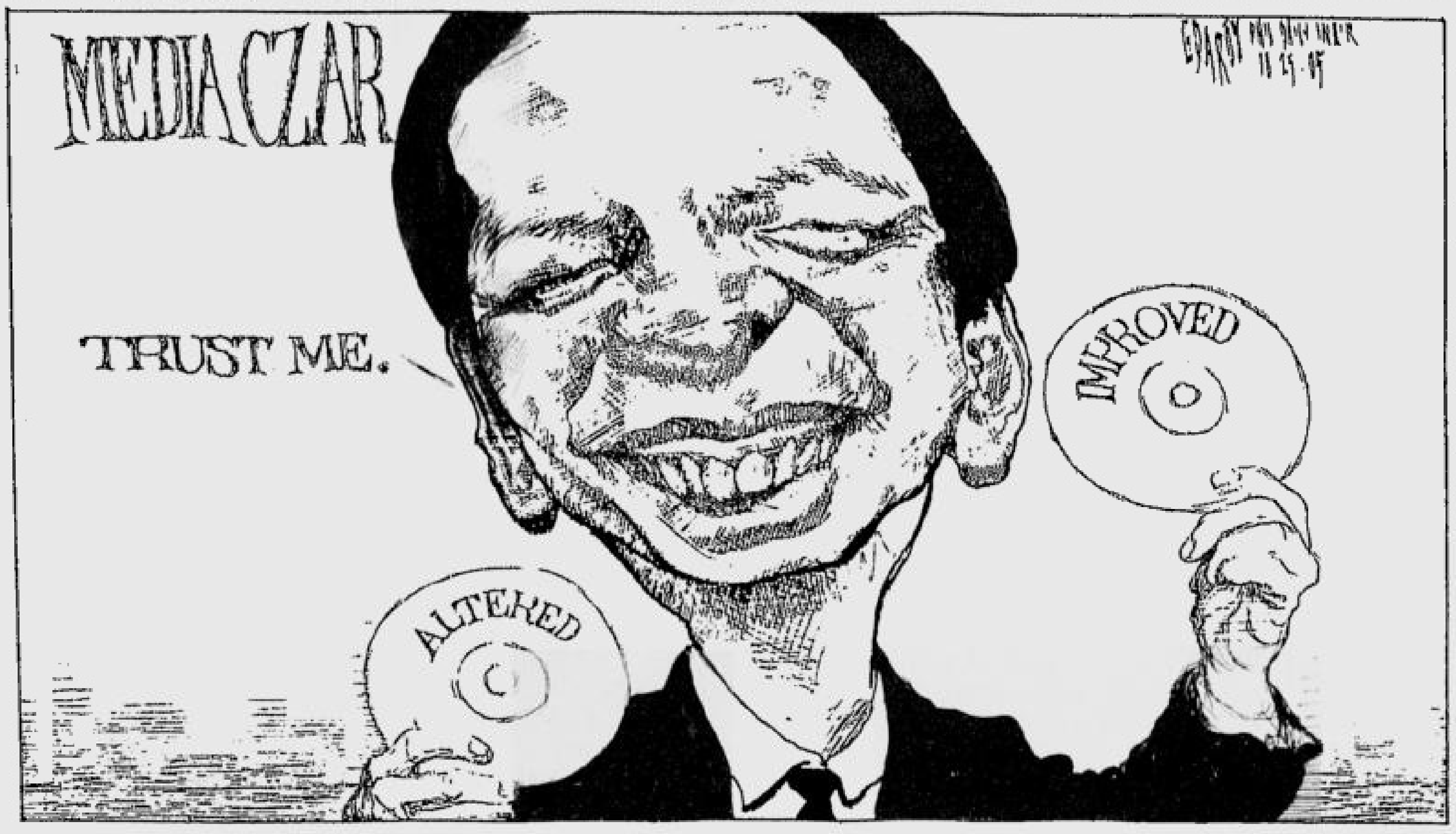
FOREIGN COMMENT

IT HASN'T BEEN MORE THAN TWO YEARS SINCE THE US ended its 19-year boycott of Unesco, the UN organization for education science, culture and communication. On Monday, the superpower again chose to break with the other 189 UN member countries.

The conflict is over international convention for cultural diversity, an uncontroversial and politically correct matter, one would think. Who could oppose, in 2005, an agreement to nurture broad artistic and cultural expression? Who really seriously believes French art films, British television drama and...Norwegian music...are a threat to Hollywood, American mass market TV and Britney Spears?

The answer is the Bush administration.

Aftenposten (Oslo, Norway)



Listening to whimpers

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

"DO YOU HEAR THE CHILDREN CRYING O MY brothers,/Ere sorrows come with the years?"
—Elizabeth Barrett Browning

The most strident voices that reverberate in headlines and the evening news today come from ralliers who claim they want to pray.

They shrug off the Master's counsel to pray "in secret." Instead, they'd implore the heavens across Mendiola Bridge, preferably before Malacañang's Gate 7. When media shut off the cameras, that's "amen."

The Bill of Rights protects even high-decibel petitions. But do they drown out the whimpers of children and those peddled into sex dens?

"The Philippines remains a source, transit and destination country for men, women and children trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor," the 2005 US State Department report on "Trafficking In Persons" asserts.

Filipinas are often "lured abroad with false promises of legitimate employment," it adds, "for commercial sexual exploitation to destinations throughout Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe and North America. "

This sleazy clandestine trade persists although the Philippines has cobbled into place laws to implement the 1989 Rights of the Child Convention and similar treaties.

Republic Act 7610, as jailed former Rep. Romeo Jalosjos can attest, clamps mandatory life terms on those who abuse kids. Cebu City's new "Second Chance Center" houses juveniles separately from adult offenders.

Civil society here is "highly protective of human rights," the US report notes. Indeed, many share Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's insight: "Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged with humanity."

But deeds lag behind aspirations. "Mindanao has become one of the trafficking hot spots because of armed conflict," a United Nations Children's Fund fact sheet states. "Children are trafficked to major cities and neighboring countries, particularly Malaysia."

Precise figures are difficult to pin down. The Unicef fact sheet estimates 60,000 to 100,000 are locked into prostitution rings, many in tourist areas. Who knows? All we know is "child abuse casts a shadow the length of a lifetime."

Endemic poverty, joblessness, the migration drain, flabby rule-of-law environment and sex tourism interlock in significant trafficking activity. "The Philippines' placement on Tier 2 Watch List is due to its failure to show increasing efforts to convict traffickers."

Atrophied official mindsets is one reason, says Fr. Shay Cullen, dogged defender of abused children. It's a problem that water cannons can't flush. He explains in his group's newsletter:

"The most pernicious problem...is the common practice of local officials and parents to 'settle' a complaint of child rape and molestation with money.

"Poor confused parents are pressured by police and community leaders to drop the case. They get a cut from what the pedophile pays... The child is ignored, without rights, feelings or need for justice. This change must start first in the minds of the government officials and the parents."

With Irish government help, Father Cullen and his Preda Human Rights Education team have held seminars for 2,627 local government officials and 1,192 teachers so far. "They are the first line of response to child sexual abuse," he explains. "Officials seldom know their duties... They tend to go for a cash settlement. By teaching the law, obligations and correct response, we hope we've laid the groundwork for effective help.

"Contact Preda home for abused girls. Get professional assistance. We offer residential protection of the child. This is essential when the child is ready and willing to file criminal charges against her abuser."

In Father Cullen's experience, "teachers are among the first trustworthy people that a hurting abused child will turn to." This is most apparent when the child is abused by the father. "Not all mothers are willing to believe their child. The fear of scandal, legal consequences, shame and anger can block a mother from responding to the cries of her daughter."

This shortchanging of children is true elsewhere. Thus, Unicef aptly titled its annual 2005 "State of the World's Children" report as "Childhood Under Threat."

Worldwide, it says, more than one billion children are denied a healthy and protected upbringing, as pledged by the 1989 Rights of the Child Convention.

The report pinpoints seven basic "deprivations" that lash children and hobble their futures: inadequate shelter; lack of safe water, sanitation, health care, adequate food, schooling and information. These conditions effectively deny them a childhood

Poverty is not monopolized by developing countries, Unicef's report points out. In 11 of 15 industrialized nations, the proportion of children living in low-income households during the last decade has risen.

Failure of governments to live up to the convention's standards inflicts permanent damage on children. In turn, it derails progress toward human rights and economic growth.

Put children first. "The quality of a child's life depends on decisions made every day in households, communities and in the halls of government," then Unicef Executive Director Carol Bellamy said.

"If we fail to secure childhood, we will fail to reach our larger, global goals for human rights and economic development." she said at the London School of Economics... "As children go, so go nations. It's that simple."

(E-mail: juan_mercado@pacific.net.ph)

Not quite a success

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I SAW SOMETHING INTERESTING IN AN ABC 5 newscast Wednesday night. The marchers from the south had stopped by the side of the road somewhere in Las Piñas, while their leaders talked animatedly with authorities about allowing them to go forward. It was lunch time, and the hungry farmers brought out food from their bundles. It was simple fare: a few pieces of fish and meat and lots and lots of rice. They feasted on the food laid out on banana leaves with their hands.

Across them, some meters away, the cops who were blocking their way had gotten famished, too. When their food came, they squatted on their side of the road and ate furiously. It was simple fare too, not unlike the farmers': a few pieces of fish and meat and lots and lots of rice. They ate with their hands from plastic plates, devouring their meal with gusto.

The sight drove home a point to me, which was that except for the uniform and the guns, the cops were pretty much in the same boat as the ralliers. Tired and hungry, poor and angry.

Which raised the question: Why were they on opposite sides of the road? Or to put the question less metaphorically: Why has the issue of the protest against GMA been reduced to cop versus rallier? That is how it's been over the past three weeks, with police officials and rally leaders trading barbs on who provoked what and who has been the more abusive. You have a clash during a rally, you'll never be able to pin all the blame on one or the other. You'll have no end of incidents of *karahasan* from both sides. You see a rallier being bludgeoned, or as one woman claimed, being sexually harassed by the cops while pinned to the ground, your blood boils. But you see a cop, man or woman, bleeding from an open head wound or a gash across the face, and your blood boils just as well. That cop, woman or man, also has a family to go home to.

Who's the more abusive? That's an open-ended, interminable and irresolvable debate, one with evidence to argue for either side. That should make us wonder about the wisdom of challenging the whole notion of Calibrated Preemptive Response with more rallies aimed at "reclaiming Mendiola." While "reclaiming Mendiola" does have a ring to it, suggesting as it does not just reclaiming the freedom of speech and assembly but a piece of history itself, it doesn't have to take the literal form of storming the bridge in defiance of CPR. It can always be a symbolic or even individual gesture of protest. A poetry reading, concert, fast, or sit-down strike somewhere in the vicinity can reverberate louder than the din of a march.

Indeed, a huge rally at Plaza Miranda, the original symbol for freedom of speech or assembly, might do the trick better. You can always "reclaim Mendiola" by way of Plaza Miranda in the same way that MacArthur returned to Bataan and Corregidor by way of Leyte. Symbols by their very definition do not have to be literal.

The ralliers assessed their rally last Friday as a success, notwithstanding that they never got to set foot on Mendiola. Well, not quite. In fact, I would think the whole tack of physically "retaking" Mendiola has become counterproductive. At the very least, I don't know that (the water-cannoning of the prayer rally the other Friday aside) the public has thrown its sympathy behind the marches, notably after the clashes. I don't know in fact that the rallies aren't blunting rather than highlighting the oppressiveness of CPR.

You don't need that idiot PNP NCR Director Vidal Querol (there's one agitator right there: he kept warning of violence last Thursday coming from communist infiltration of the peasant ranks when in fact only an AFP agent, who nearly got beaten to death, was shown to have done so at DAR) to show the ralliers can get ugly too. That subverts the effort to show government has become more fascistic. The "fight for Mendiola" can take on the aspect of being a macho contest, and to go by the phrases tabloids and AM radio are using, it has: "*di nakapalag*," "*di pinaporma*," and so on. Those phrases take a life of their own in the public mind.

At the very most, it removes GMA from the picture. You have cop and rallier arguing angrily who is the more abusive, you will have GMA laughing with glee and asking who is the more stupid in this proxy war. Cops are not the enemy. You put them there to "defend" Mendiola, and they will do it with the same macho pride or desperate honor with which the ralliers will try to "retake" it. And I don't know that the public will not sympathize with them more than the ralliers. The attack on Mendiola will not stoke images of reclaiming history or defying martial law, it will remind the public of movies like "Assault on Precinct 13."

In the end, all you'll have is a triumphant GMA descending on the scene of slaughter, figuratively speaking though that may not remain so if this persists, as she did last Friday, pinning medals on her loyal defenders and listening to their tales of woe. The cops do not get to feel a sense of solidarity with the ralliers, with whom they share a common poverty and a miserable life, they get to feel a sense of solidarity with GMA, with whom they are made to share a common beleaguered lot. Of course, she oozed commiseration with them last Friday, and why shouldn't she?

It's time we restored a perspective on things Cops are not the enemy, a usurper in Malacañang is. It was Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita who reminded us of it forcefully last week when he spoke of the need to prosecute Jamby Madrigal's security aide who was caught by cameras with a gun in the water cannoned prayer rally. Ermita said: "He may say he's sorry, but he still has to pay for it."

But, of course. Breaking the law is never excused by saying, "I am sorry."

Gumption

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

SHEER GUMPTION IS HOW MANY TERM THE demand of the Black and White Movement for Vice President Noli de Castro to take over the reins of government by Nov. 30. BWM has suddenly remembered there is a Vice President, but it wants to dictate on him early on. The arrogance and self-righteousness of this group! It wants De Castro to head an "advisory council" as "transition president" until a special election can be held. But if he won't agree, BWM would declare him President Macapagal-Arroyo's partner in crime, and anoint Senate President Franklin Drilon acting president (after all, he's the *manok* of former President Cory Aquino, BWM's doyenne).

But what is BWM to make such preposterous demands and by what authority? Except for the Hyatt 10, who gained notoriety when they turned traitor to GMA, most BWM members are unknown entities who can't even win a barangay election. *Mabuti pa si Mike Velarde*, at least he's trying to clothe his proposal for a presidential election in 2007 with a semblance of legality, by campaigning for a "bullet amendment" to the Constitution to allow an unscheduled election.

* * *

The proposal of various leaders, such as former President Fidel Ramos, to cut short GMA's term in 2007 so that she would serve only six years, as the Constitution says, finds citizens mulling it as a viable option. But definitely they don't want it under the conditions set by BWM, as those are unlawful and a sure-fire formula for anarchy. The Palace's answer to this proposal: If the constituent assembly that will draft a new Constitution would cut short her term in a transitory provision and the people would ratify it, then GMA is willing to accept it. So is De Castro. Their position sounds reasonable: those who want to cut their terms should campaign for it in the assembly and among the people. BWM cannot have their heads on a silver platter.

* * *

Where does the "moral authority" of BWM people come from? I recall that about two years into President Aquino's term, when Chino Roces delivered an unexpectedly blistering speech right in Malacañang, attacking the "highwaymen" proliferating in her administration, Ms Aquino was speechless. But most people interpreted that term to mean her relatives, the Kamag-Anak Inc. All the whispers about how they revived *jueteng* in Central Luzon and struck deals with the Marcoses never died down during her rule, fueling seven or eight coup attempts.

On the other hand, Bro. Eddie Villanueva has yet to answer Benito Araneta's serious accusation about how he sold the same operating rights to his TV station to two different groups. Some of the Hyatt 10 people continue to ignore Victor Agustin's challenge to account for the many millions in government funds that were channeled to their foundations.

* * *

News one seldom reads on the front pages or on TV: GMA disclosed at the National Security Council-Neda Cabinet group meeting last Saturday that amid the political turmoil in the last five months, the economy grew to a point that it may be poised for takeoff. GMA said the gross domestic product in the third quarter is expected to be stable at 5 percent. She also noted the renewed foreign confidence in our economy, due to the recent Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of the EVAT. Among the indications was Nomura International's upgrade of its investment recommendation on RP dollar bonds. Yesterday, the Philippine Star reported that the peso, which closed at P55.43 last week, "remains one of the strongest currencies" in the world and the "best performing currency in Asia year-to-date," with the exception of the Chinese renminbi.

* * *

This most welcome news doubtless led many citizens to think: If despite all the political instability, the economy has grown and the peso remains one of the strongest in the region, think of how they would perform if all our political leaders and various sectors of society could unite and pull together. Then perhaps we could really alleviate what former Senate President Jovito Salonga calls the "gripping poverty" of our people and even outstrip our neighbors. As Peggy Perez-Vera, one of our civil society guests at last Sunday's dzRH show that tackled the many repercussions of the rallies in Manila, noted, our country is so rich in natural resources and it has been spared the various calamities that have hit other nations in recent months. She said all these special blessings from God should be read as signs that we ought to work harder for our impoverished people.

* * *

During the 14th anniversary of the Local Government Code, GMA ordered the release to a wildly cheering crowd of governors of P17.5 billion, representing that portion of the Internal Revenue Allotment withheld from LGUs in the Estrada administration. These investments in the countryside are meant to rev things up there. In addition, GMA allocated P5 billion as seed money to a new anti-poverty movement in the countryside called Kilos Asenso. At the Manila celebration and the Palace dinner, Antique Gov. Sally Perez brought all the six governors of Western Visayas, including Iloilo Gov. Neal Tupas, who is said to be close to Drilon. She related that the resounding cry of the local execs was, "Kilos Lokal, Asenso Nasyonal."

In pushing all these funds to the countryside as well as for "greater powers" through Charter change, GMA is obviously solidifying the support of LGUs, a major bulwark of her political strength since the political crisis erupted. Bohol Gov. Erico Aumentado, Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines president, declared GMA the "true champion of local autonomy." But revving up the countryside should go beyond sloganeering. Let's hope the LGUs would spend these precious funds wisely and with greater accountability. It should be their way of repaying GMA's unstinting support.

Weekend in Mindoro

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

I WAS IN MINDORO OVER THE WEEKEND, together with family and friends—old and new—on the invitation of Jolly Ting, of whom I have written a few months ago as the owner of Calapan Waterworks, a private franchise that supplies the Mindoro capital with clean and safe water.

But it seems there's more than just water on Ting's mind these days, as our recent trip proved. Aside from staying over the weekend on an island off Calapan that Jolly and his wife Lulu own and use as a private getaway, we also took advantage of our trip to visit the site of a planned housing development under Gawad Kalinga for which Ting's foundation is providing the seed money.

The proposed site is in Naujan, Ting's birthplace. The housing project is actually a collaboration among the Mindoro Sandiwaan Foundation, which Ting is organizing, the Naujan local government headed by Mayor Bert Mendoza, the landowners and Gawad Kalinga in Mindoro.

"With tourism development picking up, a lot of our town mates, most of them fisherfolk, have been displaced," says Mendoza. This is the reason, he says, he's giving priority to housing.

So when Ting approached the mayor about his intention to fund a housing project with Gawad Kalinga, Mendoza set about looking for a feasible site. The trouble, says the mayor, was that most of the lands in Naujan were already privately titled and the municipal government had no property to spare. Fortunately, the mayor heard of a parcel of land that had long stood vacant and approached the owners about the possibility of donating the property to the project.

* * *

FORTUNATELY for the project, too, the one-hectare lot belonged to another exemplary Naujan family, the De la Torres. Mayor Mendoza says he had to do only minimal persuasion before "Aling Adang" de la Torre, mother of former activist priest and now popular educator Edicio de la Torre, before she "bought into" the concept.

But the lot in question was owned by a relative who resides in Chicago, so he was still required to undertake negotiations via overseas calls. The day we paid a call on the mayor, he proudly held up the title for the property, which was immediately turned over once the landowner gave her consent.

When we drove to the proposed site of the Gawad Kalinga Village, we discovered that it was no ordinary parcel of land. For one, it lies just a few meters away from a beach, with several resorts as immediate neighbors. Ting says he had originally planned to fund 100 homes, but was now thinking of having 50 homes built first, with another 50 homes perhaps for another locale.

The Naujan local government's counterpart in the project is site development, that is, constructing the roads and other basic necessities such as power, water and sewage. Gawad Kalinga will screen the possible residents, most of whom will be landless fisherfolk from the local barangay, says the mayor, as well as provide values orientation and organization.

* * *

LATER that day, we visited another Gawad Kalinga village in Naujan, the Alangan Katutubo Village in Barangay Balite which sits on mountain property purchased by the barangay itself. The village, named after the local name of the Mangyan community on site, was funded mostly by donations from Malta. About 95 families will live in the village, and 20 homes are already standing on larger-than-usual lots to accommodate small plots for vegetables and other crops.

A few of the original structures, small huts fashioned from nipa and bamboo, stood just outside the entrance to the village. The GK folk said these belonged to some residents who were asked to transfer the huts to make room for the new concrete houses, now painted in bright pastel colors. When we asked if the Mangyans really preferred to live in concrete houses, the GK workers said the townsfolk had really requested for more durable structures, since many of their fragile huts had been blown down by a recent typhoon.

But the residents had also said that they preferred to follow their traditional ways, so inside each house can be found an elevated platform or *papag* around which all household activities revolve. Some families have also taken to building smaller huts beside their concrete houses, which seem to be reserved for cooking and sleeping.

* * *

OUR "tour" of Naujan's GK villages also served to showcase the potentials for tourism in Mindoro, which offers much richer rewards than just the already-popular tourist destination of Puerto Galera.

Joining us for lunch at the Naujan town hall was Mindoro's youngish and good-looking Gov. Arnan Panaligan, who also happens to be single. Over a meal of fat crabs and luscious sea food, the governor spoke of his desire to further develop his province's tourism industry.

In his sights, said the governor, is the development of Bulalacao, the southernmost town of Mindoro, which boasts of beaches with white sand that, he says, is of the same consistency as that of Boracay. Numerous islets also dot the waters off the shores of Bulalacao, and these are worth developing and promoting as well.

Even closer are two islands off Calapan that the Tings have bought. The larger one Ting says he is considering developing into a resort, while the smaller one-hectare island is a private retreat with rustic amenities but excellent snorkeling sites, though you have to take others' word for it as I have an abiding fear of deep water.

Still, I can at least boast that one of my accomplishments over the weekend was successfully navigating the distance between the two islands in a kayak—with Jolly Ting as my expert guide and navigator—a feat that just might rid me yet of my aversion to the deep.

Angela Merkel meets the world

COMMENTARY

Christoph Bertram

AT LONG LAST, ANGELA MERKEL IS GERMANY'S new—and first woman—chancellor. Although continuity will remain the hallmark of foreign policy, Germany's international engagement under Merkel will sound and feel different from that under Gerhard Schroeder's leadership.

Schroeder came to power seven years ago representing a new generation whose formative experience was not the Cold War, European integration and transatlantic friendship, but German unification and the restoration of national sovereignty. For him and the team that took over after Helmut Kohl's 16-year reign, Germany had become a normal country, no different from other European heavyweights like France or Britain.

Indeed, one of Schroeder's first major foreign-policy experiences was the European Union summit of 1999, where the leaders of France and Britain played rough with the newcomer from Berlin. The lesson that Schroeder drew was to insist that Germany could no longer be taken for granted and would demand a role commensurate to its size and weight. Self-assertion became the watchword of German foreign policy.

Thus, when Schroeder claimed special circumstances for Germany's failure to meet the budgetary ceilings of the European Union's Stability and Growth Pact, he seemed to be arguing that the restrictions should apply only to smaller countries, not to the big players. When he rightly opposed America's war against Iraq, the pride of standing up to the world's only superpower was palpable. When he established a close personal and political relationship with Russian President Vladimir Putin, he signaled to the world—and to the EU's sensitive new Eastern European members—that Germany's foreign policy would no longer be constrained by the past.

In fairness, it should be acknowledged that it was under Schroeder that Germany shed hesitations to deploy soldiers abroad. His support for international crisis missions in Kosovo, Bosnia or Afghanistan required considerable political courage and made Germany one of the major contributors to international stability efforts. To have removed the issue from domestic ideological controversy ranks as a major achievement of Schroeder's tenure. But it was also meant to convey that Germany had grown up into a proper international power.

With Merkel, the substance of Germany's foreign policy will change little, but the assertive style will be muted. American leaders will welcome her election as proof that the estrangement in bilateral relations is over. But that alienation already largely ended earlier this year, when the Bush administration realized that allies are good to have and that Germany is an important one. Merkel will reintroduce the warmth that has been missing under Schroeder, but she will not become America's yes-woman.

Nor will she abandon special relations with Russia, to which every German chancellor since Adenauer has attached major importance. But she has already made clear that Germany's neighbors to the east will have no reason to feel bypassed. She may even want to confirm that message by making her first official trip abroad not to Paris but to Warsaw or Vilnius.

On the European project, she is as committed to integration as her predecessors have been. She will continue to emphasize close relations with France because there is no alternative; Britain, absent from the euro zone and the Schengen border regime, remains the odd man-in of the EU.

But there will be no new initiatives on integration until leaders in the countries that rejected the Constitutional Treaty are ready for a new try. Then Merkel will be in a key position to add weight to a new effort for moving the EU forward. She will continue to favor the eventual admission of the Balkan states, but she has left no doubt of her opposition to full membership for Turkey, which is the major substantive change from the Schroeder era (although her government will not block the start of negotiations in early October).

In fact, there is very little Merkel has to do after her election to make her mark on foreign policy; the visible change of style will suffice, at least at first. In any case, she will have her hands full pushing through the economic reforms for which she will be elected and which are her top priority. There are indications that Germany is finally emerging from years of economic stagnation, not least thanks to the reforms started under Schroeder. At home, Merkel can hope to reap the rewards.

Abroad, Merkel has no need to demonstrate that Germany is a big country in Europe; her partners are fully aware of this. But it is also more than just a normal country: Germany remains central to holding together the two international institutions that will continue to assure its well-being, the European Union and the Atlantic alliance.

There are some indications that Merkel is more aware of this than Schroeder was. One can only hope that this recognition will serve as her guidepost when tough decisions must be made and changes in style alone will not be enough.

Project Syndicate

Christoph Bertram is director of the German Institute for International and Security Studies (SWP) in Berlin.

The return

YOUNG BLOOD

Cathy Paras

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.**

WHEN I SEE OLD CHILDHOOD FRIENDS IN THE MORNING market or at the mall while I'm having my afternoon coffee, I am often greeted with confused and shocked looks—the kind you would expect to see on someone who has witnessed an apparition. It doesn't matter who it is—my mom's best friends, a second cousin, or perhaps, a neighbor from our old subdivision—their question is always the same: "Why did you come back to the Philippines after living in the United States?"

It's not an easy question to answer. My return home was not something my family and I could have foreseen when I left for college in New York City. I was 18 years old then and bouncing-off-my-seat excited to leave Manila in order to live out my own American Dream in the Big Apple, where I became co-captain of my university dance team, performed at the world-famous Joyce Theater in front of dance icon Merce Cunningham, and learned from the now late-Beat poet and my professor, Kenneth Koch. Armed with my Ivy-League diploma and the brazen self-confidence of youth, I easily navigated through urban life in New York, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. But despite all these, I longed for home even if I was unsure whether the Manila of my memories was still intact.

True to our nation's ever-tumultuous socio-political identity, my return home was greeted by the Arroyo-Garci phone-tapping scandal and the nervous uncertainty on people's faces as they confusedly gathered on Ayala Avenue, outraged by our head of state's pseudo-apology, but exhausted from the thought of living yet another People Power, our democratic ammunition that seems to lose meaning with each use. Yes, I was definitely home, for only in Manila do you take into consideration the possibility of a revolution breaking out in the streets when making plans to meet with friends. But there was something life-affirming in watching it all unfold, not only on television but on the streets, making its way into dinner-time conversations with family. Because I was home, I didn't have to go online to read about it in the local news wires and I could partake in the dialogue because I was here to see it happen.

For the first time in years, I celebrated my dad's birthday with him, my mom and 30 of our dearest relatives in Baguio. It felt incredible not to live out that PLDT television commercial where the stateside daughter makes that tear-jerking, long-distance call to dad (something my two older brothers had to do from the West Coast), but instead to greet him in person with an embrace and a kiss.

When we bless the food before each evening meal, I thank God not only for the sustenance we receive, but also for the company around me. Gone are the days of having microwaved lasagna—or microwaved anything, for that matter—alone in my studio apartment, or amid other Manila exiles who, like me, dreamt of their mom's *kare-kare*, with the sauce made from freshly ground peanuts and other secret homemade additions, unlike the powdered supermarket variety we resorted to using in the US that often disappointed.

It may be surprising to know that more exiles are returning home. Many of my peers are coming back to set up their own restaurants, to become fashion stylists or graphic designers for local publications, to seek their master's or juris doctorate at the Asian Institute of Management or the Ateneo Law School, respectively, or (in classic Pinoy fashion) to take a stab at that singing career in show biz. When I see these talented men and women out at night in Greenbelt, at St. James Parish in Alabang, or (yes, this really happens) at my favorite squid-ball stand in Parañaque, we often give each other a knowing look or a smile, not having to say a word about our return because of an unspoken understanding that can only be comprehended after you've had a slice of the American Dream, only to realize that there's nothing quite like the Humble Pie from home.

One of my dearest friends is preparing to leave for the US next year, to begin her residency as a doctor in Illinois. I want to beg her to stay, to serve the people of our country who are in dire need of her expertise, instead of the ones she will likely treat in an affluent Midwest suburb, who will go home in their SUVs with their health insurance cards neatly tucked in their wallets. But I know that to ask her to stay would be selfish. I know why she wants to leave, and perhaps I would, too, if I only earned an eye-opening average of $700 to $1,000 a month as a self-employed physician—wages an American high-school graduate can get working at a neighborhood GAP store.

But if I know her at all, she, like me, will long for Manila's chaos, one that can easily transform into a cognizable order. She will see, with the perfect vision that only hindsight can offer, that all the opportunities in the West sometimes isn't enough to keep you from returning home.

My doctor-friend also has one weakness that she surely can't live without and that she absolutely must have after every meal: the Philippine mango, so explosively sweet and inimitable. And in Chicago, they don't grow them like we do.

Cathy Paras, 26, is taking a break from her non-profit work to be a freelance writer. She is based in Manila.

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

Send your contributions by e-mail to youngblood@inquirer.com.ph together with your address, age and the school, course and year you're enrolled in or, if employed, the position you're holding and the company you work with. Contributions to Youngblood should not have been previously published.

THEY SAID

Leverage

"Luisita has always been used as a leverage against us."

—Tarlac Rep. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, after the government recommended the revocation of the stock distribution option entered into between the Cojuangcos and farmers of Hacienda Luisita

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Silence is saying yes to injustice

I SAW IT ON TV AND ONLINE. MY FRIENDS in the struggle, notably Fr. Robert Reyes, being hosed down during their peaceful prayer march last October 14. I must admit, as a clergyperson like many in that group, I cried at the sight of people expressing their faith to end repression. I cried, out of admiration for their courage, and the pains of the struggle for justice.

I cried with a tinge of envy that I wasn't there. I'm so far from home but I share in their defiance of state terrorism. Yes, state terrorism. When government represses the rights of people to assemble and express grievance, that's terrorism in my book. When government is ineffective in providing for the poor, and inutile in working for a just sharing of resources with everyone—that, to me, is a way of terrorizing people. Poverty, as Gandhi said, is the worst kind of violence. I question, not only the legitimacy of the present government, but also the inherent injustice within the socio-political and economic system that it protects and perpetuates.

People of faith cannot remain silent when confronted with these oppressive powers that seek to subjugate—no, destroy—the rights of citizens wanting to voice their concerns and protest against poverty and injustice. It reminded me of the early years of Christianity when believers were thrown into the lions' den for defying Roman imperial rule.

Politics is not outside the ambit of what is spiritual, for spirituality deals with evils institutionalized in structures of oppression and violence. Good governance is imbued with the moral responsibility to stand for what is just. A law is not necessarily just for the reason that it is a law. Once the state upholds unjust laws, the Church cannot be quiet because the Church has gone through the experience of an oppressed people in its infancy.

I agree with Father Reyes when he sent me a text message about the fascist policies of the government: "We need to pray and act." Yes, we pray, and we also act. That is genuine faith—the dialectic of what is spiritual as the wellspring of our inspiration, guidance and courage; and action as the concrete expression of our values, principles and faith. Otherwise, silence would mean collusion and implicit agreement with the powers that oppress our people. Silence means saying yes to injustice.

—REV. ISRAEL I. ALVARAN,
Graduate Theological Union,
1798 Scenic Avenue,
Berkeley, CA 94709,
ialvaran@ocf.berkeley.edu

THE COLLAPSED building of Hyatt Hotel after a strong earthquake hit Baguio City in 1990.

President by default, Marcos reincarnation

I AM AN AVID READER OF CONRADO DE Quiros' columns and I can't help but agree with him that Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is "President" only by default, because there doesn't seem to be any other viable alternative to her. I agree also wholeheartedly that this is no reason to tolerate her presence. If given a real, concrete opportunity to do "something," such as physically remove her from office, I might even consider doing so; but as hypocritical a Filipino that I am—like the rest of us—I won't do it for fear of public opinion, for fear of what the neighbors might say.

I believe it is precisely this "fear" that created the monster that is GMA. Is it also because we are fearful that we won't get Uncle Sam's approval in unseating GMA without a suitable replacement? I have a disturbingly strong feeling that this is so. National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales' actions seem to confirm this suspicion. But another point I would like to drive at is this: we, the people, the citizens of the Philippines, are the sole cause of our dilemma. Look at how we treated the Marcoses and each and every crook in our political system. Instead of languishing in jail, they flourish in our businesses and government offices. Perhaps, we should drop the act and let Erap roam free as well? I believe GMA took, and is taking her cue from the way we treat the Marcoses et al. They got away with murder and what not, so why not her?

Now she's clearly taking on the persona of the late Ferdinand Marcos, and no one is actively opposing her. Remember those days when there were businessmen who thought they'd be safe for as long as they didn't overstep their boundaries? Remember the Lopezes? How much more time will it take before GMA decides to swallow all the businesses in the country? The signs are all too blatantly clear, history is repeating itself, and Ferdinand Marcos is somehow reincarnated in GMA. Power is clearly becoming more and more intoxicating to GMA with each passing day. The difference is, another Edsa revolt will simply not work this time. I shudder to think what sort of solution some people will have to resort to in order to undo this "Gordian Knot."

I was 12 years old in 1986 when I went to Edsa with my family. I'm 31 now, single, and have little hopes of raising children of my own—not with the present state of the nation. I won't be marching to Edsa this time. So I'd like to pose the questions to us all: What can we do, what should we do?

—RAMON VICENTE BERENGUER
monberenguer@yahoo.com

'Wild, Wild West'

TODAY, I SAW A WHITE-COLORED NISSAN Pathfinder with plate # SFZ 607 equipped with an illegal police siren (*wang-wang*) in the vicinity of Edsa corner Ortigas Avenue around 3:00 p.m.

There are so many private cars with police sirens. I have compiled a list of the ones I saw on the road using their police siren:

WRF 447 Mitsubishi L300 or Toyota LiteAce
XKH 253 Nissan Patrol, black
XED 954 Ford Expedition, black
UFZ 711 Honda Accord, dark blue
WKE 754 Daewoo Prince, white
UEL 493 Toyota Corona, gray
XHJ 321 Ford Expedition, black

It is crazy. Private citizens and criminals act like policemen, while policemen engage in criminal activities. Wow, it is really a "Wild Wild West" situation here in the Philippines.

Can't we do something about this crazy situation?

—R. SANTOS,
fightfraud@gmail.com

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@ inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Learning from Pakistan's experience

THE WORLD WAS SHOCKED WHEN Pakistan, together with Afghanistan and India, hit the headline after a 7.6-earthquake hit the Kashmir region, killing more than 30,000 and injuring an estimated 60,000, excluding yet the number of missing people. It was disheartening to see the legs of a school boy protruding from a collapsed building as shown in one daily. Other dailies showed the terror in the faces of survivors in the midst of great wreckage.

It comes to mind that a similar earthquake could also hit Metro Manila. Situated along two major tectonic plates—the Pacific and Eurasian plates—the Philippines experiences about 4-5 earthquakes daily in varying intensities.

A study on earthquake effects in Metro Manila, the "Earthquake Impact Reduction Study for Metropolitan Manila," looks into a scenario of a 7.2-magnitude earthquake in the Valley Fault (formerly called Marikina Fault). This could cost some 35,000 lives and some 114,000 limbs in Metro Manila alone, including the destruction of 175,000 buildings plus the death and damage that could be caused by fires, not to mention damaged roads, bridges, ports in the North and South harbor, Angat reservoir and water supply system.

The question is, are we ready for that possible big quake? Is the government doing its work to prepare for that possible nightmare?

Philippine experience shows that the government's response to disasters is too reactive, relief-centered and inadequate. Lack of people's participation results to wasted resources and inappropriate projects. The people affected are usually seen as helpless, needy "victims." They are usually treated as passive aid recipients.

In what seems to be another man-made disaster, the current political and economic crises aggravate our marginalized *kababayans'* vulnerability to disasters. Red tape hampers the immediate delivery of relief, while graft and corruption divert funds from where they are needed, toward the pockets of some authorities.

Mother nature cannot be prevented from releasing her tension. But the impact of disasters can be managed and mitigated by adopting a community-based approach, involving the active participation of communities vulnerable to disaster. It is possible to build disaster-resilient communities as our organization's experiences with communities have shown. Until the government change the way it looks and deals with disasters, the Philippines could be another Pakistan should the big quake come. It could even be worse here.

—KATHARINA ANNE BERZA,
advocacy officer,
Citizens' Disaster Response Center,
72-A Times Street,
West Triangle Homes, Quezon City

Martial law again

I AGREE THAT IT IS NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE for Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to declare martial law, but who needs to declare it if you can run the country like a dictator. A pro-GMA judiciary, legislature and military, coupled with the masses too tired of politics to participate in governance, are all one needs to run the country like it is under martial rule.

During the Marcos years, our leaders did not perform their duties because they cowered in fear. With martial law, they were forced to cooperate with the dictator.

Today, our leaders are not performing their duties in exchange for huge political favors. GMA sees to it that they get their payoffs to win their cooperation.

So what's the difference between a declared martial law where there is only one dictator and an undeclared martial law where there are many principals and accomplices?

—DENNIS DY,
dennisdy2004@yahoo.com

Socio-political concerns to resolve if we must end the nation's plight

THE SAD PLIGHT OF OUR COUNTRY continues and will persist unless we resolve certain socio-political concerns.

Minimize broadcasting of bad news. Is there really "responsible journalism" when almost every day we read in the newspapers, see on TV and hear on the radio nothing but bad news? Is it because bad news sells a lot more than good news? As the cliché goes, there is no news but bad news.

Stop politicking. We ought to respect the outcome of any elections no matter what. There is no such thing as "clean and honest" elections. Winners will say they were given the vote of confidence by the people, while losers will bemoan they were cheated. Who shall we believe then? Subsequently, the minority party will find means to put the incumbent leader and his majority party out of power at all costs. Politicians, who appear to be sincere at first glance but are really only power-hungry deep inside, like to play chess where they subtly lure the people to be their pawns, and then maneuver to checkmate the king. In politics, there are no permanent friends and permanent enemies, only permanent interests.

Desist on watching too much drama movies/films. Telenovelas or teledramas are a "fad" nowadays. The negative thing about them is they only induce self-pity, especially among the poor. They may touch the human emotion but in a depressing way. What good is gained when the viewing public weeps every day on reels instead of indulging in real-life productive activities. (Meanwhile, show-biz people wear big smiles on their faces as they amass massive fortunes out of making people cry?

Differentiate religion from rituals or rites. Religion is having genuine faith in God and not doing wrong to fellowmen; it is not indulging on mere rituals, or worshipping icons, or making a brouhaha from memorizing the Bible as if one is already saved from his sins by that, or being judgmental, or attacking other religious groups.

—MICHAEL DANILO F. CUETO JR.,
70 Gonzalo Puyat St.,
Loyola Subdivision, Marikina City

INQBOX

Do you agree with the dispersal and use of water cannons against a procession by the clergy and citizens in Mendiola last week?

I DONT AGREE. I was shocked re. the dispersal of the peaceful rallyists in Mendiola. The police could've just talked to the leaders. Why do they have to disperse them in such a violent manner? What a shame.
—James Philip Narisma, 39, *Iloilo city*

yes, it would be less violence using water rather than firing bullets.
—jessieka lauchengco, 16, *q.c.*

NO. There was nothing CHAOTIC the PRAYER-RALLYISTS were DOING. There were NO STIMULI that a WATER CANNON should ACT upon THEM..
—tricia zafra, 19, *quezon city*

Using water cannon is just wasting d water storage!..
d ralliers have d right! We have a DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, ryt?!
—chona marie tion, 42, *cagayan de oro city*

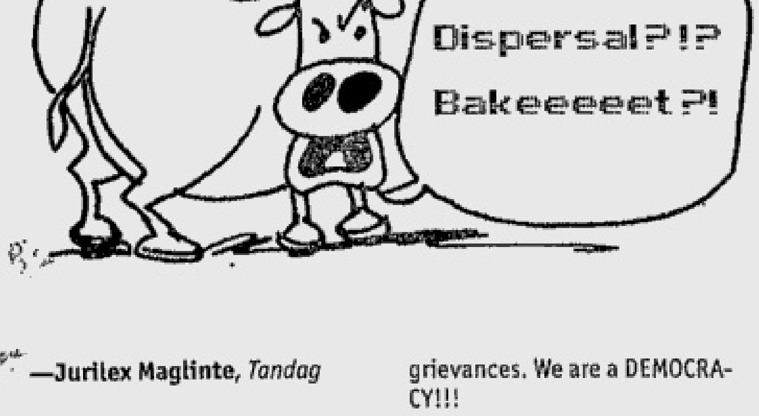
GOD gave us free will. Let d Filipinos do what they want to do. I don't agree with the dispersal and use of water cannons. It was a prayer rally.
—Imelda Lim, 49, *E.Samar*

dey wer gven permit 2 hold rally at plaza miranda & san sebastian church, still not contentd dey want 2 dare d authorities..
—dr. dani gujol, 49, *tagbilaran city*

Government's use of water cannon 2 disperse peaceful rallyists is lamentable..
—Glenda Inserto, 50, *Malinao, Aklan*

It wasn't a procession. Twas a group of "tryng hard O.A.s" .Provocateurs hus aim was 2stage deir way in2 d headlines. Lawlesness..
—rene locsin, *QC*

hindi, dahil hindi ito makatarungan --maraming nasaktan sa ginawa nla.



Dispersal?!?
Bakeeeeet?!

—Jurilex Maglinte, *Tandag*

yes, i agree with what the police did. Coz the citizens and the clergy are not actually doing the procession
—marygrace villafuerte, 29, *naga city*

definitely not! We have laws on dispersals and the person who commanded d use of water cannons should resign, or else be fired!
—gerry singson, *vigan city*

NO WAY! We have a right to peaceably assemble, and air our grievances. We are a DEMOCRACY!!!
—teresita liao, *manila*

NO to dispersals of peaceful rallies. Pres. Arroyo is panicking, and making desperate moves to quell people from speaking up. NO to violent dispersals by the police! NO to corruption in PGMA government! It is ironic that PGMA was swept into power by people power. And Now she is going against the Filipino people.
—rene sanchez, *diliman, Q.C.*

Napaka-pasista ni Pres. Arroyo, Unang-una, karapatan ng bawat Pinoy ang kumilos at magsagawa ng mapayapang protesta. Ang paggamit ng mga pulis ng water cannon at dahas, ay ebidensya ng kabulukan ni Mrs. Arroyo.
—Openg, *Las Piñas*

Your message to the 4 Filipino boxing champs: Brian Viloria, Rey "Boom Boom" Bautista, Bobby Pacquiao and Manny Pacquiao? Bombom, Brian & Pacman Brothers, Manny & Bobby HANEP na HANEP KAYO. U ALL MAKE US MASAYA. TUNAY KAYONG BAYANING Filipino!
—jose ensomo, 43, *surigao city*

You made every Filipino proud of u guys, i hope U continue 2 work hard & succeed in d future.
—Lorimer N. Fuentes, 29, *cagayan de oro* city

You have shown that being a great hero to this nation can be achieved through sheer determination and honest hard work.
—jaime mendoza, 43, *baguio*

You have done great honor for our country that makes us proud of your accomplishments..
—crisanto corpus jr, 39, *imus, cavite*

The pinoy fantastic 4! We are once again proud 2 be Pinoy! May U inspire d Pinoy youth! F4 boxers, our pride, More power!
—jay san jose, 33, *cardona, Rizal*

ang galing galing ninyo!! You've proven that with hard work, training, skill, dedication and perseverance, that YES!, the Filipino can! U give us Filipinos, the inspiration that we need, especially during these hard times. Mabuhay kayo!! J
—rene, *antipolo, rizal*

Dear Readers, Text us your comments, suggestions and views on today's news or how it was delivered. Tell us about the news you are interested in and the things you want improved in your favorite newspaper. Text INQUIRER <section keyword> name/city/message and send to 283 (Smart) or 2207 (Globe). The section keywords are indicated in the logo of each section.

UP-ALL
URBAN POOR ALLIANCE

MADAME PRESIDENT:
Your housing program for the poor has failed.

It has failed because of HUDCC's lack of decisive action on the key reform agenda repeatedly asked of it by the urban poor.

Most significantly:

- The appointment of the former NHMFC EVP as President of the Social Housing Finance Corporation (SHFC) will put at risk the very goal of SHFC. The SHFC which was created by EO 272 last January 2004, is envisioned to be the vehicle to institutionalize reforms that will make housing finance accessible to the urban poor. NHMFC has failed to do this by its inability to scale up the Community Mortgage Program (CMP). Transferring NHMFC personnel to the SHFC ends any realistic reforms in matters of social housing.

- There have been no Presidential Land Proclamations in 2005. HUDCC claims that there are several draft proclamations awaiting your signature at the Office of the President . You promised in 2001 to give land tenure to 150,000 urban poor families a year through proclamations. Moreover no Deed of Conveyance has been issued to qualified families in already proclaimed sites.

- Mass evictions of poor families continue and most often there is no decent relocation. Bishop Jose F. Oliveros of the Diocese of Malolos has said of the North Rail relocation sites; "*I have seen and our field workers have confirmed that most of the relocation sites are far from adequate. They do not have enough water supply, normal electricity supply, adequate drainage and sewerage system, among others; in sum, these relocation sites are not yet habitable and not fit for habitation.*" He asks for a moratorium on further evictions.

We therefore recommend that:

- **Atty. Miriam E. Quizon be appointed President of SHFC to ensure that the necessary reforms be implemented under the SHFC. She has the full support of housing NGOs and poor people's organizations who sign their names below.**

- **The draft proclamations pending at the Office of the President be immediately issued. The government must speed up the issuance of Presidential Proclamations in order to meet the target of 150,000 families a year. This is the very best instrument to give land tenure to the poor. We also ask that Deeds of Conveyance be issued to at least 25,000 qualified families annually in already proclaimed sites.**

- **Moratoria on evictions be immediately effected in the absence of resettlement sites with adequate services as provided by law. We support the bishop's call for a moratorium in the resettlement of families affected by the North Rail project. We also ask that the speedy provision of basic services in the existing sites where affected families have already been relocated be ensured.**

HUDCC SCORESHEET

(1-Excellent, 2-Satisfactory, 3-Passing, 4-Unsatisfactory, 5-Failed)

UP-ALL AGENDA	HUDCC COMMITMENT	ACTION TAKEN	RATE
1. OPERATIONALIZE the SHFC immediately	• Full Operationalization on Oct. 15, 2005 • Annual target of 30,000 families to be assisted through CMP (5,000 July-Oct. 2005)	• Delay in the SHFC operationalization; PGMA private sector representatives not yet confirmed as of Oct. 15, 2005 • CMP Take-outs: 2,111 families as of Sept. 12, 2005	4
• APPOINTMENT of Atty. Miriam E. Quizon as SHFC President	• Former HUDCC Chair M.T. Defensor endorsed Atty. Quizon to be SHFC President	• F.T. Arzaga, former NHMFC EVP has been appointed SHFC President	5
2. SCRAP CMP Circular #31 series 2005	• Proposed scrapping of Circular 31 will be an agenda in the July 2005 NHMFC Board meeting	• CMP Memo circular 033 revoking 031 issued in September 2005	1
• Immediate removal of Celso delos Angeles as NHMFC President	• VP will accept the resignation of the Mr. de los Angeles	• New NHMFC President	1
• Increase CMP fund allocation	• PhP250 M for CMP with NCA; PhP 250 M with SARO	• PhP 250 M release	4
3. RESUME and EXPAND the Presidential Proclamations	• Committed to resume and expand Presidential Proclamations with an annual target of 150,000 families	• No Presidential Proclamations for Year 2005	5
4. FAST TRACK the completion of post proclamation activities	• Annual target of 25,000 families with Deeds of Conveyance	• No developments	5
• Institute guidelines with consultations with stakeholders	• Conduct of consultation workshop to identify points for IRR framework • Creation of TWC to draft IRR with reps from PO & NGO • Regional consultations on the draft IRR with mid-September 2005 as the deadline for adoption	• Regional consultations held • Proposed IRR has not been finalized	4
• Government should allocate resources for post proclamation activities	• Proposed budget for Year 2006 – Php 105 M	• No budget for Year 2005	5
5. ISSUE an official directive to conduct an independent project evaluation and performance audit on the NGC.	• Committed to conduct project evaluation & performance audit on NGC	• No implementation despite the directive and the NGC Administrative Committee resolution	4
6. PRESENT an official report on the investigation of the Lungsod Silangan	• HUDCC to make representation with DOJ for the immediate investigation of the Lungsod Silangan • DENR to conduct the boundary survey and provide DOJ with maps necessary for its investigation • HUDCC (NHA) to investigate on-going demolitions in the area and Jacob	• DOJ investigation started in July 2005. No completion to date. • DENR provided the DOJ with the needed maps and other documents in July 2005; Plotting revealed inconsistencies with those reflected in LRA records • No re-assignment of Jacob	5
7. CREATE an independent commission through an EO to ensure the proper implementation	• NO commitment	• No action	5
8 ISSUE a presidential directive to NHA and DPWH to cease using PD 1472 (mandating NHA to evict delinquents) and the National Building Code	• Will forward the issue to NHA and DPWH	• No action	5
9. INSTITUTIONALIZE the Resettlement Action Plan	• Agreed on the institutionalization of the RAP	• No action	5
10.PUT in escrow account the funds representing the allocation of the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission for the relocation of families	• Committed to assist in setting up a meeting with the PRRC and the affected communities	• Meeting/dialogue with PRRC ED conducted in August 2005. Issue remains unresolved. Follow up actions not set.	5
11 CONSIDER AS URGENT the consolidated 4-point agenda of the Pasig River informal settlers	• Committed to assist in setting up a meeting with the PRRC and the affected communities	• Meeting/dialogue with PRRC ED conducted in August 2005. Issue remains unresolved. Follow up actions not set.	5
12.EXPAND the coverage of KALAHI-CIDSS/KALAHI-URBAN in the urban poor communities including resettlement areas	• Agreed to provide basic infra (water, power and drainage) and cheap rice	• Only Northville communities have accessed services	5
13.CERTIFY as urgent the bill on the creation of Local Housing Board	• Bill on LHB is also a HUDCC legislative agenda	• On 3rd reading in the House Committee on Housing	5
14.CALL for Concon to effect constitutional reforms that will ensure the participation of the underprivileged and marginalized sectors of the society	• VP is in favor of constitutional convention.	• PGMA SONA: Charter Change through a constitutional assembly	5

There is a growing disenchantment by the urban poor. Their housing situation remains very bad, in fact worse. Our urban poor areas are an affront to human dignity.

We have to do better Madame President!

NATIONAL NGO/PO NETWORKS - Urban Poor Colloquium (UPC). CMP Congress. Philippine Undertaking for Social Housing (PUSH). Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies, Inc. (PHILSSA). Homeless People's Federation of the Philippines (HPFP). Urban Land Reform Task Force (ULR-TF). CMP POs.

POS: Luzon - Luzon CMP PO Network ***Quezon City*** - DAMPA. ALMANOVA. BH-SIKAP. BH-SAMASA. KONSTI-A. KONSTI-B. KONSTI-C. KONSTI-E. ULRHA. SAMASA HOA-SUSON. SAMASA HOA-SANTIAGO. IGNACIO. AREA B-1 TALANAY HOA. TALANAY. DAMAZO. BALIKATAN SA DOS. SKRK. G2 HOA FEDERATION. SANDIG HOAs Phases 1-8 & 13. UNO HOA. BIGKIS DIWA. MOLAVE. CULIAT INC. PCUPA. ST NIÑO HOA. KAPIT-BISIG HOAs (Banawa, Jacinto, Pena, De Guzman, Padilla, LCM, Tan, Carlo Properties) ENGR. ALFONSO D. GOSECO COMPOUND HOA, INC G.H. ALDANA COMPOUND HOA, INC. KAAKIBAT NG KABALIKAT I & II HOA. KAAKBAY HRS. BAGONG PAG-ASA. SILANGAN VILLE. OUR LADY OF GRACE. LIWANAG. SAM. MGKAKAPITBAHAY NG FLORENTINA. CONSUELO. CRISPULO. SAM. MGKAKAPITBHAY NG BIGASAN Phase 1 & 2. SAM. MARALITA NG GULOD. PADILLA CMPD. HALIGI AT ILAW. EDNA ALVAREZ HOA. NENITA VILLE. LUZVIMINDA. STA. LUZVIMINDA. SAM. MARALITA NG KABAGONG TAUHAN. NGKAKAISANG MGKAKAPITBAHAY NG DABAGONG TAUHAN. SAM. MGKAKAPITBAHAY NG KADALAGAHAN. DON CRISPULO. NABIGLA PO KASAM PO Phase 1 & 2. DELLAMAS. PASACOLA MEN IN ACTION. DELA ROSA HOA. UPPER EVERLASTING. SUNSHINE. LITEX BLK 1. SAMAHAN HOA. SAMALI. SAMPAKABAI. KALINISAN LIKOD COA. KAPITBISIG. SOHNA. PINAGBUKLOD. KOSA. GALLY HOA. BLESSED LAND. MAGKAISA HOA. VINE HOA. PINAGSAMA. LUPANG PANGAKO. BALIKATAN. NSLE. VILLAMARZO, FEDHOPW, GOLDEN SHOWER. PGKAKAISA NEIGHBORHOOD. PAMANA. EDGE HOA. VILLAMARZO HOA. SANAPA FED. BUKLURAN. UNITED HOA. PATIBAY BLKS. 1 - 3. NAMAPA BLKA 1-3. POPAVILLE. STAR HOA. PAMANA. TANDOC. MGE. GREGORIO LIM HOA. SAMA-SAMA. NALAMA. BRGI. STA. CRUZ. STI. UBOTI. SAMANATA. PINADAMAKA. KAMI. BRGY. 787 NA. GLNA. RASYC. RIBANA. 81 KAPILIGAN NA. 42 KAPILIGAN NA. 48 KAPILIGAN NA. NOKRAI. KAHA. SMTI-OA. SAMA-SAMA. NALAMA HAR. ***MAKATI*** - SRAI. ERA. UGPI. STI. MCRAH. - ***Muntinlupa*** - SAM. MAGKAKAPITBAHAY PHASE 4. DAMAR 3. SMTR. BAGONG SIBOL. PNR. LUZVIMINDA NEIGHBORRHOOD ASSN. LASAMMI. MORNING SITE HOMES. APAYA SETTERS. SPARINA RIVERSIDE. NAMASU. NMTB. NINACERES HOA. ASONG MAKIPOT. SAPISSAN. SIKAP BULI. SITIO MASAGANA. SNK KABABASHAN. SITIO PARAISO. SN. LEONARDOS. SOUND OF TRUTH NEIGHBORHOOD. SAM. NG PAGKAKAISA NG TAGA SAMPAGUITA. SAM. MARALITA. SMSP ICAMPINA. BAGONG SILANG HOA. SITIO MAPALAD FARMERS NEIGHBORHOOD. SAM. MAHIHIRAP MAGDAMAG. TRUE NEIGHBORHOOD. SNV TRAMO. SITIO ANAHAW. MJBV PNR RAILROAD. SMSNWCI. KASAMMI. PHOAI. SMBNUSS. KABALIKAT NG BAGONG SAM. ANAK D4 CLUSTER ASSN. PMHAI SOLDIER ASSN. PUROK 7 B. PUROK 2 MALAGANAP. BUKAL HOA. SAMASA ASSN. KKKTHOA. MALAYANG SAMAHANG MAGKAKAPITBAHAY. SAMASIM. SAM. SARILING SIKAP. CENTRUM ASSN. MAAGAP NA SAMAHAN NG TRAMO. SAM. KAPATIRAN SIKAP. LOSAN-TUNASAN. BAGONG PAGASA NEIGHBORHOOD. SAM. PAGKAKAISA. SIKAP UNLAD SA RILES. PUTATAN. PACWOOD SITE. LUDURA TRAMO. SAMAKA BAYAN. SPTMMMNAL. SAPAKA. SITIO PAGASA. GALLO KAPISIN. MUPFI. . ***Manila*** - SHIP-O. NASAPA. DSOP. SMBVD. KABALIKAT. . ***Las Pinas*** - KAMPI-LS. CHRISTIAN WOMEN HOA.. EVERLASTING HOMES. CHRIST THE KING Phases 1 & 2. SMM. HVNA. FREE VILLE. SP HOA. DIAMOND VILLE. ST. VINCENT VILLAGE. ALDHAI VILLA PANGARAP. STARLIGHT VILLE. KK HOAI VELAZQUEZ CMPD. STA. RITA. MORNING BREEZE. DOVE VILLE. STA GUADALUPE. SWALLOW VILLE. KPI GTA TALON UNO. PSBP 3. PEGION VILLE. ALMANZA VILLE. SN. ROQUE HOMES. VILLA STO. CRISTO. ST JUDE. PATRIOTS VILLE. SILVER VILLE. UH HOA. HAPPY HOMES. STO. NINO HOMES. CYPRES VILLE. STA GUADALUPE. DAMAYAN. EMHAE. GRACIOUS. LARKS VILLE. LUCKY HOMES. UNICARE. SAMATAHAI. GOLDEN ACRES. GLORIOUS. SAVIOUR VILLE. GOOD SHEPHERD. ST. LOUIE VILLE 1. ST. MARK. . ***Marikina*** - DAMAYAN MARALITA NG CONCEPCION. APITONG NAI. TABING ILOG. SAN MIGUEL P2-4, VICTORY HILLS. CHAMPACA NAI. FAR EAST. SANTAN. 1ST AVE. DUPLEX. SANCHES CMPD. BALAGTAS. PRINTING VILLAGE. SANTAN I & 5. SONA. . ***Parañaque*** - SAGRADA PAMILYA HOA. BLK. III BAGONG SILANG HOA, INC PHASE I SAM. NAGKAKAISA NG PUROK DOS, INC VELARDE HOA, INC SMB. SAMALUPA. . ***Pasig*** - KABBIP. BAPRA. ASRR. BATU SA TEMPO. SNFI. BILHOA. DAMAYAN. VDNA. RCNA. SKTVR. SMTI. DERNA. SLNAI. MPNAI. SAMAPI. SALUNA. INDEPENDENT GROUP-SANTOLAN. SMMBIHOA. BHOAI. VILLARAN HOA. RIVERVILLE HOA. MASIKAP HOA. KAPATIRANG MAHIHIRAP NG PASIG. KATUPARAN HOA. Villa Esguerra. BINAI. DVMA. Buting HOA. Biyaya ng Langit. Pineda. . ***Navotas*** - NAGKAKAISANG SAM. NG LITTLE SAMAR. SAMABANAN. SANAGMANA. SAM KAPIT-BISIG NAZARENO. BUKOL DIWA. LOURDES MARKET TENANTS ASSN. LUPA. NBBN NEIGHBORBOOD ASSN. . ***Valenzuela*** - MACOOA. BONBON BISIG PAGKAKAISA HOA. T.C. ENCARNACION HOA. SAM. BAGONG LAKAS. JACINTO RIVERSIDE NAI. 5106 Ugong Sulok NAI. SAM. MARALITANG NANINIRAHAN SA RIVERSIDE BRGY UGONG, SAM. KABUHAYAN SA MAPULANG LUPA. GERMANT HOA. 3rd SAPIKA. SPSK. . ***Caloocan*** - CATMON VILLAGE. SANAMA NG PNB. SAM. MAHIHIRAP SA PNR MEDINA HOA. PAMAYANANG SAM. NG MGA MAHIHIRAP NA WALANG LUPA. SAM. MAGKAKAPITBAHAY NG LIBIS SA KALOOKAN. SAM. MAGKAKAPITBAHAY NG SUKABAN HOA. NEIGBORHOOD ASS. OF BRGY. 121 CALOOCAN. BLESSED. NEWLY FRIENDS. PEASANT. GOODHANDS. LORENZO. LIGHT HOUSE. KAPIT-BISIG. HAMPTON. PACANA. BAHAI. SAM. MAGKAKAPITBAHAY. DE VILLARIN. SABACK. SAMBAYANIHAN PEOPLE'S. NEW LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD. CATTLEYAVILLE. PETSBAR. KING OF MERCY. JIARH HOUSE HOA. GOLDEN HOMES. LA SUERTE. LUCKYVILLE KAMASAKA FED. BUMACA FED. . ***Malabon*** - NADHAI. SAMAKAPA. DAMATAL Phases 1 & 2 KSHC. PCHR. STKKC. SML. SAPADACA. GREEN MEADOW. MPV HOA 1. NADHAI. CATMON HOA. BONAFIDE NAI. KNA. SISA TENANT ASSN. SMP FLOVI Home 1 & 2. . ***Pasay*** - MALIBAY ESTATE PORTION ASSN. . ***Taguig*** - TANYAG HOA, INC PHASE I & 2 . ***Montalban*** - KV 1. KV2. ACTION GROUP. . ***Taytay, Rizal*** - PHOPHECY VILLE HOA. SANAHUBA. SAM. PARA SA KINABUKASAN. KISLAP. . ***Antipolo*** - LUNGSOD SILANGAN TOWNSITE. PAYONG HTS. GOOD SHEPHERD. SN. AGUSTIN. SIKAP. BALIKATAN HOA. EPERA. MINA. . ***Cainta, Rizal*** - JANSSENVILLE. . ***Bacoor, Cavite*** - BAYANIHAN HOA. ILAYA-SALINAS HOA. AN-CRIS HOA. SALINASVILLE 1 HOA. SALINASVILLE 2 HOA. SALINASVILLE 3 HOA. SAMASA HOA. BLK. III BAGONG SILANG HOA PHASE 1 & 2. SAM. PINAG-ISANG MALIKSI II HOA. GREEN GRACES HOA. GAWARAN EXR. HOA. BSMB BLK 3-A. SAMASA HOA. ADORESVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD. Salinas 3rd Street. . ***Kawit, Cavite*** - JOSHUA VILLAGE HOA. . ***Amadeo, Cavite*** - Adorers HOA. . ***Tanza, Cavite*** - Tres Crushes HOA. . ***San Pedro, Laguna*** - DREAMLAND HTS. MANGGAHAN HILLS HOA. . ***Tayabas, Quezon*** - BUK. MAGKAKAPITBAHAY NG BRGY. LITA HOA. ANAK MARALITA HOA. LITA HOA. . ***Tagkawayan, Quezon*** - SN RAFAEL RIVERSIDE HOA. SN JOSE ILAYA HOA. . ***Cabanatuan City*** - HOME & LOT KAPITBAHAYAN ASSN. . ***Baler, Aurora*** - CEMENTO HOA. . ***Nueva Ecija*** - LAARVILLE HOA. GEN. TINIO HOA. . ***Marilao, Bulacan*** - SAMARIMA. MARIMEL-DULO. MARIMEL SUBO. PORENZA HOA. PNHAI. LOMA DE GATO. . ***Sn. Jose del Monte, Bulacan*** - GAYA-GAYA. VILLA SN JOSE. CAPILI CMPD. PAG-AWANG MAMUHAY ASSN. PRENZAI. . ***Tarlac*** - BAGONG PAG-ASANG TARLAC HOA. . ***BICOL*** - BICOL URBAN POOR COORDINATING COUNCIL (BUPCC) ***Tabaco City, Albay*** - BATA PNR HOA. STO KRISTO HOAI. DIVINO ROSTRO HOA. SAN LORENZO. BACOLOD-TAYHI PNR, HOA. SALVACIO PNR HOA. . ***Legaspi City*** - 1728 HOA. QUIRIOCA HOA. QUINALE HOA. BRGY. 33 HOA. LOOBAN HOA. CAPANTAWAN HOA. PIGCALE HOA. BITANO HOA. PEÑARANDA HOA. CALLE HOA. . ***Daraga City*** - RAWIS HOA. BINITAYAN 1 & 2 HOA. **Visayas** - UP-ALL CEBU. UP-ALL NEGROS. UP-ALL ILOILO ***Cebu City*** - TIERRA DULCE FED. PFI FED OF CMP HOAs. CCUPCC. PROJ ROI, PROJ JOSHUA, UKRAI ASSN. 1, BALANGKAPUNA 1-3. JURACHO. WHITE HILLS. MOUNTAIN VIEW VILLAGE. SVHOA-BULACAO. JOHAI. SIBUHAI. SAPURAI. BHAI. LOVE MOUNTAIN HOA. VIHORA. DELA MONTAÑA. UKRAI 2. SITIO ANAGAN HOA. LISDOM HOA. MABUHAY HOA. GLOBAHAI. MEDALLE LAND. CNAI. ALUMNOS. CEBU ROCKY HILLS. LASNAI. HILLSVIEW VILLAGE. MOHON TISA RESIDENTS ASSN. TISA RIVERSIDE II. TISA CADULOY. LAHING-LAHING NEIGHBORHOOD. BATCH 1 TABAYLAWAN. ARRIOLA. SIRRA. BARRA. URWA. KASATRES. SINAHAI. LOT 1433. UNITED LUMAR. PEOPLE'S POWER. KINASANG-AN. KAUSWAGAN. HKKI. YELLOWBELLS. ST. ANTHONY. BATCH 17. BASAK BROTHERHOOD. VIEW HILLS. GREENBELT SITE UNITED COMMUNITY ASSN. KAWAYAN. BAJANLA 1. SUCUMNEAS. UBCA 3. BIHAI. ST. MARY HOA. ISKP. MINHOA. HILL CAMP. SITIO IPIL-IPIL. SITIO CROSSING. APAC. SITIO TAHNA TISA. VECHAI. CEBA. SURAN. HABITAT BLESSVILLE. SAN ISIDRO LABRADOR HOA. DRIHOA. ASUPA. DINA (PLASTMER, CHICAGO, BUL, PANAGHIUSA, SAN PEDRO, BOHOL, RIVERSIDE, VP) INAI. SIVIKAI. IBHOA. CHAI. EMSHOA. STO. NIÑO. LOCAHOA. URHA. BULI. SANICO. ABRA. PASTICAN. G. VILLALON. BICANAI. URBANVILLE NAI. AREOLA. PKGG HOA. SISARO. STO. ROSARIO. MAKAI. GRP OF WOMEN OF F. GOCHAN. DPSOI. BIHAI LARAY. LOWER TANA. UTRAI. MAGNARA. OBLATES OF VIRGIN MARY. CAMURESA. BHW FED. DRIHOA-LAHUG. SSROY-LAHUG. ULCACENOR-LAHUG. SIVIKRAI. SAVEFECA ST CRUZ. IMHAI. MINHOA. LBBHOA. CEHOA. T. CARSHA. CAMAGONG. SILBUPOAI, PUROK 3. PHL KAMPUTHAW. LARIHAI. CMCAI. Indian Women's Assn. Happy People. Bohol Village HOA. Bliss Roadside. East Capitol Site UP Assn. Labangon ACOA. BLAWN. Labangon Kasatres Assn. Lumad Labangon. SUOHAI. LALBUNGA Labangon. FETCUDA. TUPMC. MCCUPAI. LALEHA Labangon. DAY-AS. ISHA. ALUNAI Labangon. TPMWO. Lower Lomar. FVDA. BSJCO. A. Valle. Panag-Abay, CMCAI. Sobustaha. KAMANA. KARINAS. Sitio Sampaguita Banawa. Nika Guadalupe. Immaculate Concepcion,. Micro Sto Nino. Camp Marina. RCAI. ISHAI. SHHNA Capitol. Camia. URASSI Camputhaw. Centenial HOA. M. Veloz Capitol Site. Bo. Luz. Bmlomm Mambaling. Sr. Sto Nino Alaska Mambaling. Lucio Lopez Dalve. FAHHCAI. KIHOA. ADWANA. PAKASAL NASA. KASISASIL. Inayawan NAI. Sta. Ana Capaculan HOA. . ***Mandaue City*** - LITTLE TOKYO HOA. KAMANGGAHAN LOWER TABOK URBAN POOR, ASS. . ***Lilo-an*** - NAGKAKAISANG KABALAYAN HOA. . ***Lapu-lapu City*** - BIRANA. IBRSRAI/UKNA. DOCA NEIGHBORHOOD SUPA. PACUPA. LUPA. CEBNPA. PUTLA. MPBBA. YHC. NPUPO. LDANA. BUPA. SPSBA. PAMASOL. KAMASAKA. LUHA. ALPENA. MSNA. SLUPA. SMNA. HUGPA. SIKNA. PRESUPA. SAMUPA. SAKUPA. LNUNAI. ABDOL. MAPUBA. BASKUPA. MAHOA. PATHOA. DLA. CEGUNA. FRNA. SNLPA. SKCAI. ICRAI. MSISA. MIMA. IMUPA. . ***Talisay City*** - COUNTRYSIDE HOMES. CANEBA HOA. SARIHAI. SITIO MINGGOY. Christanville Residents Assn.. ***Toledo City*** - HOG RAISERS ASSN. . ***Iloilo City*** - MH DEL PILAR ZONE 4. PAGBUYLOGANAY. PAGHILIUGYON SANG PUMULUYO. PAG-ASA JEREOS. PAGHIUSA GOLDEN VALLEY. KAAYUHAN. ONATE NAI. CAMP DELGADO VILLAGERS. HAPPYNEST. PALI. PUNONG. ROSARIO VILLAGE. TAYTAY URBAN FAMILY. BITOON. GUSTILO. PEOPLE'S VICTORY. MAPAINUBUSON. PACIFIC VILLE. BAKHAW. BERMUDA VILLE. KALAYAAN. BAYANIHAN. FLORES. SUMAMA. . ***Bacolod City*** - MORE. MAGAYON NAI. HAPPYVILLE. HOPE IN SUM-AG. PUROK 2. PTA TAYTAY NAI. PASKU BRGY 3. PAGDAMGO SA KAUSWAGAN SA GREENFIELD. CLAMVILLE. GREENFIELDS. PAGBINULIGAY SA KADALAG-AN. USWAG LOVE. LOVE. TUPAD. . ***Roxas City*** - STO NIÑO NEW ROAD. SITIO PANGPANG. BRGY BANICA. BRGY CULAJAO. GOLDEN VILLAGE. MERCEDES PANGANIBAN. MEDALLA MILAGROSA. SAN JUAN LONOY. MONGPONG. PAG-ASA. PAG-ASA MILIBILI. BRGY. BAYBAY PHASE 1 & 2. BRGY. LUNOY. RAMON DINGLASAN ESTATE. TIZA REFORM. DOÑA LOLITA. LAWAAN HILLS. SALUGNON. SITIO UBOS. BANQUILING TIZA. BANICA-HOPE VILLAGE. ACHIEVERS. . ***Calbayog City*** - CCCUPA. SANCHOA 1 & 2. MACHOA. EAHCA. SVPHCAI. CDACA. KUPO. CAFA. DUPRA. SAM. MARILAG. PAGHIUSA. . ***Tagbilaran, Bohol*** - TUVAI. CUNA. CAPITOL HOA. . ***Kabankalan City*** - UNICA. RISING VILLAGE. COUNTRYSIDE. LIBERTY. KABANKALAN CHRISTIAN PARENTS. . ***Silay City*** - LANTAD UNITED PEOPLE'S. CABAY UNITED PEOPLE'S. LONEY-BURGOS. MAMBULAC. PUROK MALINONG NAI. ALPHA SS. WEST SAMAR. STO NIÑO COMMUNITY. SANCHOA 2. FAMILY HOA. **Mindanao** - ***Davao City*** - NEW CORELLA HOA. HUGPONG HOA. KARASIA, CHARITY HOA. MUSLIM & CHRISTIAN CREDIT. TANSODAI ASSN. PANGARAP ASSN. YHA. DONA MERCEDES 1. TRNSHAI. AKKMI. DRHAI. STO. NINO SETTLERS. URESA. KELIA VILLAGE. NSDSSAI. MEGAVILLE. COASTAL VILLAGE. GHCE. MANANAMA 2. LOHOA. SANASA. PHABI. KIHOA 2. CABUPHOA 3. GASAI. VGHOAI. BHOAI. SIHAI. SAPAHA KM. 12 Phase 1 & 3. CHOA. PEBHOA. GARCIA HTS. CREDIT COOP. FATIMA VILLAGE. DE MESA HOA. APSCOOP. GHICCAI. KM3 HOA. SURAYA Phases 1-2. STO. NINO SETTLERS. GREEN VALLEY. PHIL BANKING BAKAKA GHIA. GREENHIGHLANDS. . ***Davao Norte*** - SACRED HEART HOA Phases 1-5. SN. JOSE HOA. SN. ANTONIO HOA. SN. RAFAEL HOA. ORVILLE HOA. VILLA RICA GARCIA HOA. . ***Davao del Sur*** - APO BEACH Phases 2-3. . ***Tagum City*** - GREENLAND HOA. . ***Cagayan de Oro City*** - NHA, INC - Brgy 18. LKVHA. POO. HOA. ACLCA. PUPNA. KSMR. MHCAI. DNHA. SABINA HOA. ZONE 7, HOA. ZONE 1, HOA. LEYO. AKLAS SLYO HOA. JONG HOA. LELAS. DPPT. GROUPSHA. . ***Iligan City*** - SAN ROQUE HOA. STO. NIÑO HOA. PHASE 6 HOPE FOR CHANGE. . ***Zamboanga City*** - SAN LORENZO RUIZ URBAN POOR. BALIWASAN CHICO. VCHOAI

NGOS: Luzon - FDUP. FDA. ICSI. MDF. CCAD. MDF FEEDER. TSMFI. KRISTONG HARI. ICSI. UP A, CO-MULTIVERSITY, COPE. . St. Thomas Moore Law Firm. . **Visayas** - PFI. IPHFI. SASCULDEF. VASPHI. JFLFI, WESADEF. KAUSAMAR. ALLRU. LIHOK PILIPINA. BIDEF. CEBU UNITING FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER. FORGE. ALKAP. PMP SECRETARIAT. FELLOWSHIP FOR ORGANIZING ENDEAVORS. KAKASAKA FOUNDATION. PHIL SLEF HELP FOUNDATION, INC. NEGROS ORIENTAL INTEN FAITH. DAWN ROSARY ORGANIZATIONS. KBSP. SENIOR CITIZEN ASSN - BRGY LUZ. KALIPO-WOMEN. 4 K'S YOUTH MOVEMENT. HELP-FIRST BASEY MULTI-PURPOSE COOP. BIDEF. . **Mindanao** - HUGPONG DABAO. MINLAND. CODE. APSED. GUIDE. PEACE FDN. PACAF. MAGI. KAGINHAWAAN DEV'T, INC. IWAG DAVAO. AHA. BABAS FND. MAINLAND MINDANAO DEV'T CENTER. GROUP. ZHRDFI. KPS. MC DONNELL FDN. MCFI. BBFI. SUP. BARAY WOMEN ASSISTANCE NETWORK. BEC / HOME DWELLERS INC. SIGRAD FDN. PILIPINA LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER. KONSUMO DABAO. GOOD SHEPHERS SISTERS-ILIGAN.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) *Assistant Editor* **Tony Bergonia**

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9936
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Log ban now in force in 15 regions

By Blanche S. Rivera

A LOGGING BAN IS NOW IN force in all, except one, of the country's regions after the Department of Environment and Natural Resources added Davao in the list of regions where the harvest and transport of logs are prohibited.

The DENR decision leaves Caraga region as the only source of timber in the country.

Environment Secretary Michael T. Defensor ordered the suspension of all operation plans and permits to cut trees and transport lumber in the entire Region 11—covering Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur, Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley—effective immediately.

Defensor also prohibited the processing or milling of wood in processing plants. He instructed DENR regional directors to assign one forest guard to each wood processing plant to ensure compliance with the order.

"All Cenros and Penros who fail to implement any of the foregoing orders shall be automatically relieved and shall be charged administratively," Defensor said in a memorandum to DENR officials in Davao dated Oct. 20.

Penros and Cenros are provincial and community environment and natural resources officers. They implement DENR policies in the field.

Defensor expressed confidence that the furniture industry would not be adversely affected by the new order because it was "not the season for harvesting (timber) anyway."

He said in his memo that the suspension of logging in the region was "because of the documented illegal logging cases."

The memo's subject was "implementation of anti-illegal logging measures" and did not declare the imposition of a log ban, but the four orders it stipulated had the same effect.

"The memo is very clear ... there's no way around it. They have to stop everything. The effect is like a log ban," Nilo Tamoria, deputy head of the DENR's Task Force Sagip Kalikasan, which apprehends illegal loggers, said in an interview.

Tamoria said the suspension of all Integrated Annual Operations Plan, Resource Utilization Permit and Multi-Year Operations Plan, and the prohibition on the issuance of certificates of timber origin and certificates of lumber origin, which are needed in the transport of logs, effectively marred all logging activities.

Champion ang negosyo niyo with MAKRO!
One whole day of fun, games and surprises!
makro Makati
Grand Opening October 25, 2005
P113/kg
Pork Carcass Headless
Fresh Tilapia Pampanga
P49/kg
P39/kg
Mango
Whole Fresh Chicken
P69/kg
Oct. 25-31
Nov 1-7: P75/kg
Kangkong 200g/bundle
P1/bundle
Offers available from October 25 to 27 only
P18.80/kg
P470/sack
PRM
64 SINANDOMENG
Buy 5! Take One!
P3.60/pc
P36/pack
Juice Drink 200mL x 10
Buy One! Take One!
P8.25/bottle
P99/pack
Mineral Water 500mL x 12
Buy 2! Take One!
aro
ADULT DOG FOOD
P181
Adult Dog Food 5kg
Offers available from October 25-November 7, 2005.
Buy One! Take One!
P1,999
Single Bed
• 36" x 72"
• Silver Coated Frame
P599
P5,999
STANDARD
Desk fan 16"
• PP Plastic fan Blade
• 3 Speed Control
• 1 Year Warranty
SANYO
Color TV 21"
• ST-21M1
• Full Remote Control
• Cable Ready
• Auto Volt
• 181 Channels
• 1 Year Warranty
P 149 REGULAR PRICE SAVE 35%
NOW! P99
VALIANT Plastic Chair
• Maroon/Green/Black
P199
STANDARD
Auto Dry Iron
• Stainless Sole Plate
• 1 Year Warranty
Free and Easy Membership
5560 Osmena Highway cor. Finlandia St., Barangay San Isidro, Makati City
*See Makro Supplement in the Business Section

Cavite gov wins in appeals court

By Leila B. Salaverria

BELEAGUERED CAVITE GOV. ERINEO "AYONG" Maliksi won a major round in his battle to stay in office after the Court of Appeals granted his petition for preliminary injunction against the Office of the Ombudsman's decision to suspend him for six months.

The CA's fourth division issued its ruling yesterday, the last day of the 60-day temporary restraining order earlier issued on Maliksi's preventive suspension without pay.

The TRO was issued after the CA found that the Ombudsman ordered the suspension "without the normal evaluation or due process."

It stemmed from a graft complaint that Cavite Vice Gov. Juanito Victor Remulla filed against Maliksi for allegedly purchasing P7.5 million worth of rice without any public bidding.

The Ombudsman's order created an uproar shortly after it was issued. Maliksi had refused to vacate his office and turn it over to Remulla. The governor's supporters also held rallies outside his office to protest the order.

According to its ruling, the CA granted the preliminary injunction because the status quo must be maintained while Maliksi is questioning the Ombudsman's decision.

"Petitioner complains of the Deputy Ombudsman's order for his six-month preventive suspension without pay. Unless enjoined, his present petition might be mooted. There is a compelling need for the status quo to be maintained in the meantime or pending a decision on the merits," the decision read.

The CA also said that contrary to the respondents' claim, it was the proper forum for certiorari arising from the decision of the Ombudsman in administrative disciplinary cases.

It also junked another claim of the respondents who said the suspension order had already been consummated, citing communications from the Department of the Interior and Local Government that showed it had complied with the order.

INQBOX

Win this *Inquirer shirt

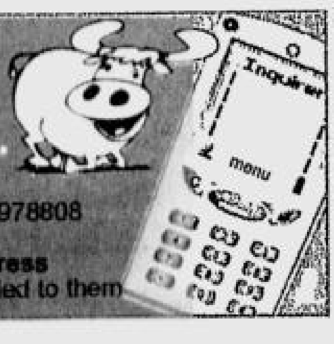
Question of the Week

Do you agree with the dispersal and use of water cannons against a procession by the clergy and citizens in Mendiola last week?

Senders of d best 20 texts as publishd in Tuesday's **INQBOX** *wiL each receiv an *Inquirer Shirt!!*

Key in: inquirer box name/age/city/message.
Text your answers to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart).
(Maximum of 160 characters)

*Metro Manila winners can call Jane at 8978808 local 335. Provincial winners can text:
inquirer ad name/age/city/mailing address
to 2207 or 283 as their prizes will be mailed to them


Inquirer
menu

Joint Declaration for Immediate Constitutional Reform

An Unprecedented Strategic National Alliance of Congressional Leaders, Governors, City Mayors, Municipal Mayors, and other Local Officials Calls for an Immediate Shift to a Unicameral Parliamentary Government—and a 10-year Transition to a Federal System

The Majority Coalition of the House of Representatives and all the associations comprising the nationwide network of local officials under the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) have agreed to launch a strategic coalition and partnership to bring about urgent political and economic reforms and a stable and vibrant representative democracy through constitutional reforms.

To this end we have agreed, at this historic meeting today of our leaders and representatives, to declare as follows:

I. Threats from Extreme Left and Right

1. We believe the prolonged crisis and its consequences and collateral effects pose a very serious threat to the integrity of the Philippine State and the safety of the Filipino people—and the publicly announced goal by authoritarians of the extreme Left and Right to bring down the duly-constituted Government and establish a ruling junta in its place has created a clear and present danger to the Philippine State.

2. We believe this political crisis—and its reckless escalation into various plots by extremist forces to topple the President—is hurting the economy grievously by scaring foreign and local investments, damaging overall business confidence, and slowing economic growth to well below the average that has been forecast for East Asian economies for 2005.

3. We believe this crisis and other structural defects of our presidential system can be met effectively through Charter reform, which has been the overwhelming sentiment of our local constituencies, civil society groups, business and industry leaders, professional associations and student organizations in our various forums and consultation meetings.

II. The Presidential System is a Failure

4. We believe in the urgent need to immediately shift the country to a parliamentary government and a unicameral legislature. The bicameral presidential system whose rising cost of elections, short election cycles, and built-in conflicts and gridlock in the separation of powers and check-and-balance between the Executive and the Legislative branches has hindered the country's development and spawned poverty, homelessness, social inequality, inadequate social services and infrastructure development, two major rebellions fanned by social injustice and underdevelopment, heavy government indebtedness, and weak institutions that lead to ineffective governance.

5. We support the clamor for a shift from a unitary to a Federal System under a formula and a transition period acceptable to the local government units (LGUs). The transition period shall consider measures to save government funds for the economic development of the country.

6. We believe in greater, meaningful and genuine local autonomy to spur countryside development that can become the engine to propel national progress. We hold further that strengthening the existing local government structures is the key to ensuring fast and effective delivery of basic services.

III. Effective Governance Under a Parliamentary System

7. We believe the parliamentary system makes for effective governance by fusing executive and legislative powers in the national parliament where the majority coalition or party elects the Prime Minister who will lead the government and its Cabinet. The parliamentary system has been mainly responsible for the rise of the parliamentary powers of Europe—and of Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and most recently India, to cite a few models in Asia, and in the south, Australia and New Zealand. The two pure presidential systems in Southeast Asia—the Philippines and Indonesia—are not by coincidence constantly bedeviled by political and economic crises.

8. We appreciate President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's assigning this shift to a parliamentary government and a Federal System acceptable to LGUs the highest political priority and moral urgency—because this shift presents the single most fundamental change to strengthen our democracy and bring the Filipino people on the path to sustained economic development.

9. We urge Congress to determine immediately the most expeditious and least expensive mode of introducing specific amendments to the 1987 Constitution and submit these amendments to a national plebiscite, so that the country could begin the long march back into economic competitiveness with the vision of achieving comparable prosperity with our neighbors by 2015.

IV. Building a Strong Party System

10. We believe constitutional reform will lead to a strong party system by making political parties effective agencies of representative and responsive government, and by installing the primacy of a coherent program of government for electing the highest leaders of the nation. We also believe in putting in place equally important reforms, namely to raise the Commission on Elections beyond the reach of partisan politics, authorize public financing of qualified political parties, prohibit the perpetuation of political dynasties, and outlaw turncoatism to strengthen the strong political party system.

11. We declare that the term of the incumbent President must be respected.

12. We propose that the incumbent members of the Senate be named automatic members of the proposed new parliament as an option in the transition phase of the shift from presidential to parliamentary government.

13. We believe the term limits for local officials and members of the legislature or national parliament should be lifted, and the three-year term be changed to five (5) years, in keeping with the five-year tenure of most parliamentary governments, to ensure that locally-initiated development programs are fully sustained. We believe that holding elections once every five years under this proposal will undo the cycle of costly elections that are among the root causes of corruption.

V. Enhancing Local Autonomy

14. We support the constitutional provision ordaining that LGUs shall have a just share, as determined by law, in all national taxes and customs duties which shall be automatically released to them without further need of appropriation by the Parliament. This way, local autonomy can be enhanced.

15. We agree to maintain the political subdivisions such as the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao, the provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays in the new system of government.

16. We support constitutional economic reforms that will increase the inflow of foreign investments to create millions of jobs, rebuild the economy, enhance the national interest and accelerate the progress of the country.

17. We commit ourselves to continue to work together, unremittingly, to pursue Charter reforms and to complete the whole process including ratification in a national plebiscite within the soonest possible time; and

18. This Joint Declaration shall take effect immediately.

(Many other House members, from the majority and some from the minority, are with their constituencies and failed to sign this document.)

• •

Done in Manila on 20 October 2005, and signed jointly by the leaders of the parties in the coalition.

Signed:

For the Majority Coalition of the House of Representatives

Jose C. De Venecia, Jr.
Speaker, House of Representatives

Raul del Mar
Gerry Salapudin
Emilio Espinosa
Deputy Speakers

Prospero Nograles
Majority Leader

Constantino Jaraula
Chairman, Committee on Constitutional Amendments

Representatives: **Douglas Cagas, Arthur Defensor, Exequiel Javier, Mauricio Domogan, Junie Cua, Monico Puentevella, Aurelio Umali, Juan Miguel Zubiri, Robert Ace Barbers, Jesli Lapus, Eric Singson, Ed Gullas, Marcelino Libanan, Benjamin Abalos Jr., Bienvenido Abante Jr., Roque Ablan Jr., Rodolfo Agbayani, Rodolfo Albano III, Felix Alfelor Jr., Trinidad Apostol, Rey Aquino, Mayo Almario, Hussin Amin, Munir Arbison, Leovigildo Banaag, Salacnib Baterina, Ferjenel Biron, Danton Bueser, Ana York Bondoc, Belma Cabilao, Bobbit Carlos, Fred Castro, Carlos Cojuangco, Mark Cojuangco, Eufrocino Codilla, Arthur Celeste, Rodriguez Dadivas, Matias Defensor, Abdullah Dimaporo, Michael John Duavit, Eileen Ermita-Buhain, Conrado Estrella III, Amado Espino, Vincent Garcia, Janette Garin, Raul Gonzalez Jr., Oscar Gozos, Cecilia Jalosjos-Carreon, Jose Carlos Lacson, Jaime Lopez, Milagros Magsaysay, Corazon Malanyaon, Alfredo Maranon III, Roger Mercado, Francis Nepomuceno, Reylina Nicolas, Ernesto Nieva, Manuel Ortega, Remedios Petilla, Ronaldo Puno, Herminia Ramiro, Isidro Real, Crispin Jesus Remulla, Victoria Reyes, Isidro Rodriguez Jr., Wilhelmino Sy-Alvarado, Lorna Silverio, Mary Ann Susano,Jose Solis, Victor Sumulong, Jurdin Jesus Romualdo, Danilo Suarez, Gilbert Teodoro, Generoso Tulagan, Florencio Vargas, Edwin Uy, Luis Villafuerte, Ma. Amelita Villarosa, Ed Zialcita**

For the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP)

Gov. Erico Aumentado
President, League of Provinces of the Philippines
President, ULAP

Mayor Ramon N. Guico, Jr.
Executive Vice-President, ULAP
National President, League of Municipalities of the Philippines

James Bragais Calisin
PRO and Spokesperson, ULAP
National Chairman, League of Vice-Governors of the Philippines

Angelito C. Gatlabayan
Member, ULAP General Executive Council
National Treasurer, League of Cities of the Philippines

Gerardo V. Calderon
Member, ULAP General Executive Council
Secretary-General, League of Municipalities of the Philippines

Vincent H. Piccio
Member, ULAP General Executive Council
President, Board Members League of the Philippines

Alan D. Zulueta
Vice-President for Mindanao, ULAP
National Chairman, Provincial Board Members League of the Philippines

Alipio Vittorio Ramon D. Fernandez
Member, ULAP General Executive Council
Executive Vice-President, Vice Mayors' League of the Philippines

Carlo Pontico C. Fortuna
Secretary Genera, ULAPI
President, Philippine Councilors League

Elmer O. Datuin
Member, ULAP General Executive Council
National Chairman, Philippine Councilors League

Ariel Joseph Arcillas
Assistant Treasurer, ULAP
President, Pambansang Pederasyon ng Sangguniang Kabataan

Shirley Belen R. Aala
President, Lady Local Legislators League of the Philippines

Editha Guico-Demetria
National Chairperson, Lady Local Legislators League of the Philippines

Ernesto Jalbuena
National Chairman, Lady Local Legislators League of the Philippines

---

Witnesses
Gov. Ben Evardone
PRO, League of Provinces of the Philippines
Gov. Adolph Edward Plaza
Agusan del Norte
Gov. Leandro Verceles
Catanduanes
Gov. L. Ray Villafuerte
Camarines Sur
Gov. Ben Loong
Sulu

Jose V. Abueva
Chairman, Consultative Commission
Victor F. Ortega
Vice-Chairman, Consultative Commission
Carmen Pedrosa
Member, Consultative Commission
Lito Lorenzana
Member, Consultative Commission
Ronald Adamat
Member, Consultative Commission
Oscar Rodriguez
Member, Consultative Commission

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Witness predicts 'jueteng' return to gov, big gangs

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE "JUETENG" WHISTLE-BLOWER who tagged Batangas Gov. Armand Sanchez as one of the country's biggest gambling lords said yesterday the official is likely to reclaim the operations of illegal gambling in his province.

"Sanchez knows too well that it's not wise to enter illegal gambling these days when the issue is still hot," said Wilfrido "Boy" Mayor, a jueteng lord for many years, during the 4th anniversary of Archbishop Oscar Cruz's Krusadang Bayan Laban sa Jueteng.

Financier

Mayor testified at a Senate investigation of jueteng and pointed to Sanchez as one of the country's biggest jueteng financiers.

Sanchez has repeatedly denied operating jueteng, saying in previous interviews that small-time operators are running illegal gambling in his province.

"Big-time jueteng operators like him (Sanchez) would only lose money so they allow the small fry to take over in the meantime," said Mayor.

The witness said while jueteng appeared to have been minimized in Batangas, it was just a matter of time before Sanchez would reclaim his turf.

Sanchez angered anti-jueteng czar Edward Hagedorn after he called the Puerto Princesa mayor a "mad dog" following a report that the illegal numbers game was still continuing in Batangas.

Hagedorn has challenged the governor to a duel. The governor kept his silence over the challenge.

Quoting information from jueteng workers, Mayor yesterday confirmed that jueteng operations had shifted to the "guerrilla" type, where bet collectors move from place to place to elude arrest.

He said this was still the case in Luzon despite the Sept. 15 deadline given by President Macapagal-Arroyo for Hagedorn to stamp out jueteng.

In Bicol, he said underground lottery was thriving in Sorsogon.

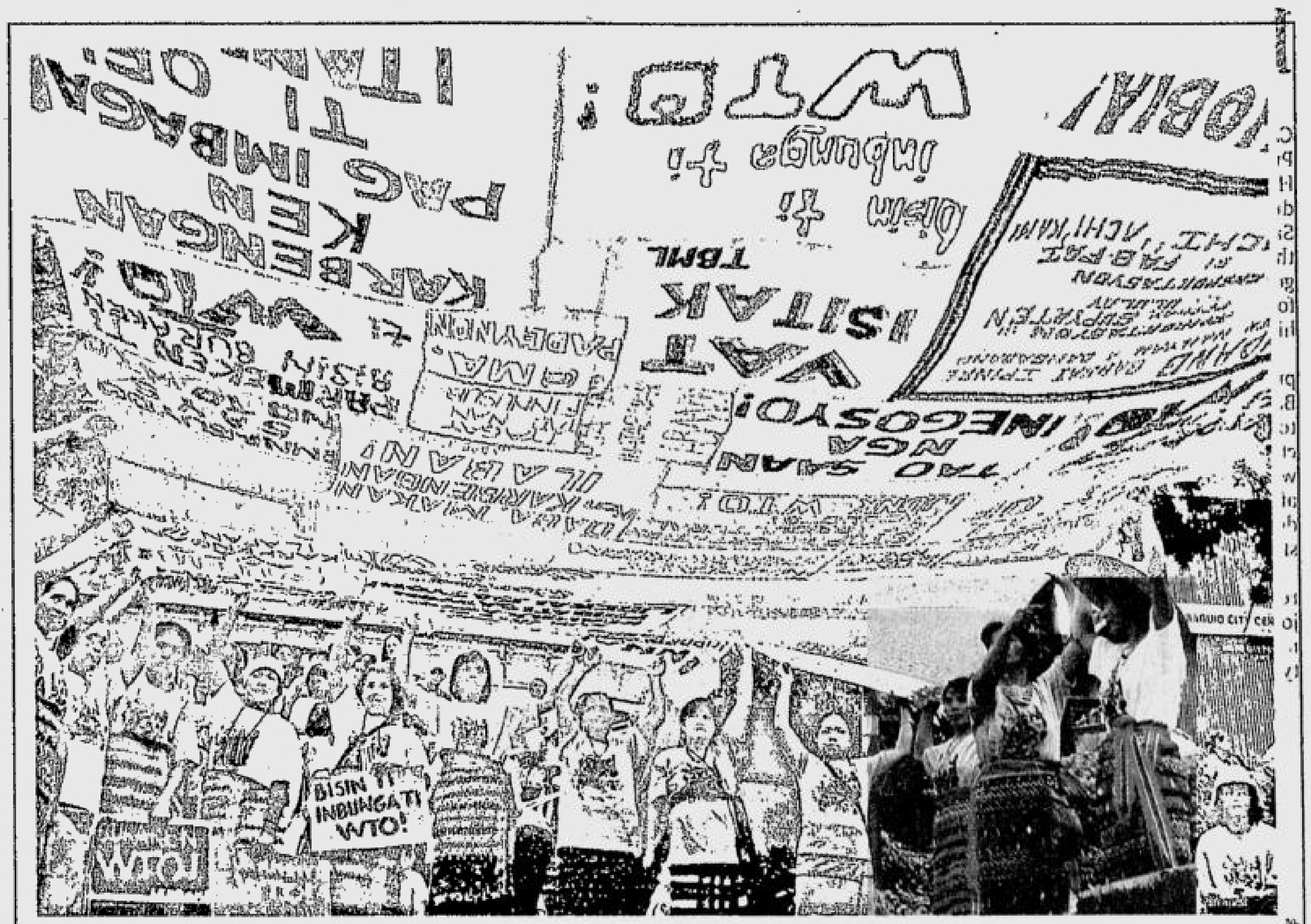
Worse

Mayor said the guerrilla type was worse than mainstream jueteng because under it, no draws were conducted and winners were selected only by the operators.

"The poor are really the victims here," he said.

The illegal numbers game has been kept at bay since Cruz's campaign started presenting witnesses in the Senate investigation of jueteng last May, he said.

Mayor said the biggest "casualties" of the exposés were known jueteng lords, like (Rodolfo) Bong Pineda and Sanchez. "They were fried so they can't just resume operations anytime."



EV ESPIRITU/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

GUILT QUILT
Forty-one messages are written on this quilt made by peasant Cordillera women to protest poverty in agricultural communities that they blame on government policies that adhere to the World Trade Organization.

Girl, pa, killed in Army operations vs Sayyaf men

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A 7-YEAR-old girl and his father, a religious leader, were killed in what the military said was a raid on suspected Abu Sayyaf members in Sitio Suba Siera, Memping, Sacol Island this city on Oct. 17.

But Aida Arabin denied that her husband Nurin, an Islamic spiritual leader of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), and their daughter Norbiya, 7, were followers of Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon, as claimed by the military.

"My husband was then reading loudly the Koran in preparation for the "*pagbuka*" (breaking of the fast) when suddenly several armed men barged inside our house, took my husband and children and fired at them," Aida said in Tausog.

Aida said she managed to escape because she was then in the kitchen preparing food for the "*pagbuka*."

Photos taken by other MNLF members showed that the victims suffered several bullet wounds.

The victims were also tied with an abaca rope.

Aida said she was still looking for her missing daughter Margbiya, 10, who was taken by soldiers when some neighbors tried to fight back. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

FASHION INQUIRER
A ONE-TIME ISSUE
FASHION MAGAZINE IN CELEBRATION OF PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY
RAZR SHARP VISION
THE SHOW
FASHION DECLARATION
25 OCTOBER 2005 NBC TENT 7PM
5 YOUNG DESIGNERS
IVARLUSKI ASERON
IGNACIO LOYOLA
JAMES REYES
YVONNE QUISUMBING-ROMULO
JOEY SAMSON
NOT ENOUGH CIRCUSES | PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ROUNDUP

Highway robbery gang busted

LUCENA CITY—Three suspected members of a robbery-holdup gang preying on motorists on the Maharlika Highway in Quezon and Bicol were arrested by policemen and soldiers last week. Senior Supt. Victorio Caragan Jr., Quezon police chief, identified the suspects as Salvador Masapol, 19, leader of the group; Jun Noriel, 24; and Edward Lagunda, 21—all residents of Gumaca, Quezon. After receiving information that the group planned to hijack an LBC Express delivery van in Gumaca town, police coordinated with Army soldiers for the operation that led to the arrest of the suspects. Authorities seized two hand grenades, a .38-cal. revolver, bladed weapons and a Yamaha motorcycle from the group.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Wanted criminals nabbed

LUCENA CITY—After almost a year, police arrested last week two persons in the city's wanted list of criminals. Senior Supt. Rueben Theodore Sindac, city police chief, identified the first to be arrested as Ronnel Daleon, of Purok Camia, Barangay Silangang Mayao, this city and No. 1 on the list. In a follow-up operation in Imus, Cavite, police arrested Reynald Lafuente, who was No. 3 on the list. Sindac said the two were responsible for the murder and beheading of a victim last year in a fit of rage after a woman spurned one of the suspects.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Eagle adopted

DAVAO CITY—Giant oil firm Shell Philippines has adopted Magiting, a male Philippine Eagle captured by a farmer in September 2002. Magiting is the second eagle sponsored by Shell, the first being Pag-asa, the first eagle bred and hatched in captivity. "Our support to the environment is open-ended. We vow to continue to support the Philippine Eagle Foundation as long as we can," Edgar Chua, president and manager of Shell Phils., told the INQUIRER. PEF has been calling on groups, individuals and companies to be part of the quest to save the national bird. At least 14 of the 31 eagles currently under the PEF's care need benefactors. The Philippine Eagle, the world's largest bird of prey, was declared an endangered species in 1965.

Joselle R. Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau

3 wanted men held

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Police have arrested three of the most wanted persons in Batangas and in Mindoro. Calabarzon police director Chief Supt. Jesus Verzosa identified the arrested suspects as Mabuhay Machete, 37, who is wanted for rape with murder; robbery-homicide suspect Romy Ilagan, 36; and rape suspect Vic Espenida, 21. He said Machete and Ilagan were arrested in Barangay Bigain Uno and Barangay Lucban, in San Jose, Batangas. Espenida was arrested in Barangay Balogo, Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro. Machete had a P300,000 reward for his capture, while Ilagan and Espenida each have a P140,000 reward for their arrests.

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Bank held up

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Three armed men held up a rural bank in Imus, Cavite and took about P100,000 on Wednesday afternoon. Police said the suspects posed as bank clients of BMS Rural Bank branch in Barangay Anabu 2. The suspects announced the holdup as soon as they entered the bank at about 1:40 p.m. Castro said the suspects, all armed with short pistols, took three cellular phones from bank employees and cash worth P100,000 in the two-minute heist. The suspects fled on board a jeep.

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Poverty in Palawan

MAHIRAP PA KAMI SA DAGA!

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—The province that hosts the single biggest foreign investment in the country is also languishing in poverty. Three of five Palaweños are poor, according to a 2004 survey by the Provincial Social Welfare and Development (PSWD) Office. The study found that about 61 percent of Palawan residents did not have access to food, shelter and health services. PSWD officer Apolonia David said the annual household income was P13,202 for a family of six. David said the major cause of poverty was the influx of migrants from poor provinces in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Jofelle P. Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Batangas gov mum on Hagedorn's challenge to duel

SANCHEZ

HAGEDORN

CALAMBA CITY—A DAY AFTER Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward Hagedorn challenged him to a duel, Batangas Gov. Armando Sanchez decided to keep mum on the issue, saying the head of the government's anti-jueteng task force might have overreacted to his earlier statement.

Lawyer Ronaldo Geron, the provincial administrator of Batangas, said Sanchez chose not to issue any statement on the challenge posed by Hagedorn, who dared the governor to a fight after the governor called Hagedorn a *bang-aw*, a Batangueño slang for "mad dog."

Geron said Sanchez was just reacting to a question from a journalist and did not intend to malign the mayor's personality.

"It's an overreaction. The governor actually issued the statement in jest. The mood in his office during the press conference was (jovial). I don't think Governor Sanchez intended (to hurt Mayor Hagedorn's feelings)," Geron told the INQUIRER in a mobile phone interview.

Sanchez called the country's anti-jueteng czar a "mad dog" after he allegedly issued a statement in an Oct. 16 news conference in a hotel in Quezon City that the illegal numbers game had made a comeback in some parts of Luzon, including in Batangas.

A close ally of President Macapagal-Arroyo, Sanchez was named as one of the country's biggest jueteng lord by self-confessed jueteng operator Wilfrido "Boy" Mayor.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to talk with Sanchez on his mobile phone. Geron said the governor was busy attending to several meetings and affairs held at the capitol yesterday.

Hagedorn said he would "gladly face (Sanchez) man to man in any kind of fight—*mano y mano* or any weapon of his choice, including a duel using the famous world-famous Beinte Nuwebe, the Batangas fan knife."

"No bodyguards, just the two of us in mortal combat," Hagedorn said in a statement sent to the INQUIRER.

Geron said despite Hagedorn's strongly-worded statement, they were still hoping that the two government officials, who he described as friends, could patch up their differences.

"*Siguro di na ito aabot sa* physical confrontation. *Sa magkakaibigan naman, mag-usap at magkita lang maayos na ang problema,*" Geron said.

He, however, claimed that Sanchez had been seeking audience with Hagedorn after several mayors of the province, including that of Alitagtag and Batangas City, complained about the mayor's statements.

Geron said the Batangas mayors told Sanchez that Hagedorn had indeed claimed that the anti-illegal numbers game resurfaced in their province.

He said the governor apparently got irked after Hagedorn seemed to have turned down his invitation for a meeting.

"Last week, Governor Sanchez tried his best to arrange a meeting with Hagedorn (to clear the issue on the resumption of jueteng). But the mayor could not be located. The governor also tried to contact him through his cell phone but he could not be contacted," he said.

He added: "So the governor had an impression that Hagedorn was refusing to meet with him."

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

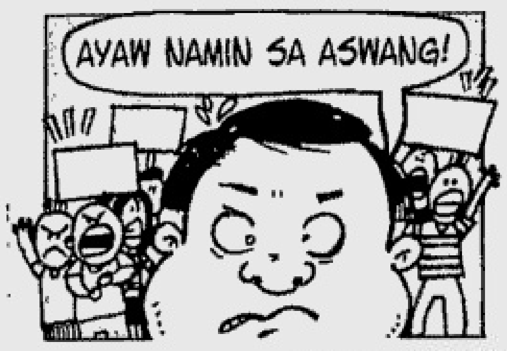

AYAW NAMIN SA ASWANG!

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Protest held vs Capiz's 'aswang' feast

By Felipe V. Celino
PDI Visayas Bureau

ROXAS CITY—ABOUT 800 persons on board at least 200 vehicles yesterday joined the caravan initiated by the Catholic Church here to dramatize their opposition against the staging of the Lupad Capiznon Festival this week.

It was the biggest caravan witnessed by Capiceños in recent years, as the convoy of vehicles—mostly vans, cars and jeeps—had reached three kilometers long.

Among those who attended were Roxas City Vice Mayor Allan Celino, Panay mayor Felipe Barredo, president of League of Municipalities of the Philippine-Capiz; and board members Enrique Martin and Fernando Altobano; and Msgr. John Luza, Capiz Archdiocese mass media coordinator.

The caravan also drew in members from at least six Catholic-based groups and four Protestant groups.

Capiz Archbishop Onesimo Gordoncillo was not able to join the caravan because he was in Manila to attend to some pressing matters.

Reaction

The caravan was held in response to the strongly worded pastoral letter issued by Gordoncillo on Oct. 16 that condemned the festival set on Oct. 28-30.

"We do not allow even seemingly the glorification of the *aswang* image per se and much more at the expense of the Capiceños who are worthy of their dignity and person," he said.

The Dugong Capiznon Inc. (DCI) has organized the festival to capitalize on the negative image that the province was a haven of witches and in turn, demystify Capiz.

Arnel Estiaga, DCI director, earlier said they wanted to turn the negative notion of *aswang* into an advantage as well as to promote the culture, talents, resources and progress and boost the economic and cultural vitality of Capiz through tourism.

About 400 ralliers converged at the St. Pius X Seminary in Barangay Cagay here at about 8 a.m. before kicking off the caravan that carried the theme: "Dignidad Capiznon Itib-ong (uplift the Capiznons' dignity)."

Bell ringing

The group then proceeded to Ivisan town where about 60 residents from the towns belonging to the province's second district waited for them and then joined the protest action.

The caravan passed Panitan town and dropped by Barangay Bailan in Pontevedra town. They were joined in by about 400 people from Capiz's first district towns.

The protesters then proceeded to Panay town and were pleasantly surprised when several residents, students and town employees greeted them with some fireworks display.

The century-old bell in Sta. Monica Parish in Panay, the biggest bell in Asia, also rang to welcome the arrival of the protesters.

The caravan culminated at the Roxas City plaza at about 10:30 a.m.

The participants then proceeded to the Immaculate Conception Metropolitan Cathedral, fronting the plaza, to attend the Mass.

a forum presented by

Office of the Presidential Consultant for Entrepreneurship
Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship
DepED Department of Education
PLDT
INQUIRER
PHILAM LIFE

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BASIC EDUCATION:
Investing in Young Minds Now

How soon should we expose our children to entrepreneurship?

To develop a culture of enterprise and cultivate tomorrow's competitive entrepreneurs,we have to start them young. Our primary and secondary schools could be the seedbed for teaching values, attitude and mindset of an entrepreneur

Tuesday, 25 October 2005, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Main Lounge, Manila Polo Club, McKinley Road, Makati City

PROGRAMME

WELCOME ADDRESS — MS. SOCORRO RAMOS
Founder and General Manager, National Bookstore, Inc.
Board of Trustee, Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship

OPENING REMARKS — HON. JOSE MA. A. CONCEPCION III
Presidential Consultant for Entrepreneurship

EMBEDDING ENTRERPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN BASIC EDUCATION

ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN BASIC EDUCATION CURRENT INITIATIVES — HON. FE HIDALGO
Acting Secretary, Department of Education

CREATING ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET IN URBAN POOR SCHOOL CHILDREN — MS. ANGELITA RESURRECCION
President, Competency Based Economies Through Formation of Entrepreneru (CEFE - Philippines)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN ACTION FOR BASIC EDUCATION — MS. GENEVIEVE LEDESMA-TAN
President, Southville International School & Colleges

TESTIMONIALS — DR. ROLANDO HORTALEZA
Chairman & CEO, Splash Group of Companies
MS. PACITA JUAN
President and CEO, Figar Coffee Company
MR. HENRY LIM BON LIONG
Chairman & CEO, Sterling Group of Companies

in cooperation with:
Jollibee GMA SM SAFI Southeast Asia Food, Inc. SPLASH RFM

Mining firm renews offer to explore sites in PMA

FORT DEL PILAR, BAGUIO City—The Philex Mining Corp. renewed its offer to explore and ultimately mine portions of the Philippine Military Academy on Saturday when its officials met Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz here.

Dr. Walter Brown, Philex chair and corporate executive officer, met Cruz during the 107th PMA foundation day rites here. He was accompanied by retired Brig. Gen. Eduardo Purificacion, former PMA assistant superintendent and dean of the corps of professors, who was hired as Philex security consultant.

Minutes before the Philex meeting, Cruz briefed former Defense Secretary Fortunato Abat about the budgetary crisis affecting the Armed Forces of the Philippines' modernization plans.

Cruz told Abat that the government deficit allowed him to propose an upgrade only after 10 years. "*Wala talagang pera* (There really is no money)," he told Abat.

Cruz told the cadet corps during the 107th PMA foundation day rites here that his "battalion upgrade program" requires the government to recruit 3,600 new military officers, and to assure the soldiers of sufficient firepower, mobility, communication access, protective helmets and vests and guaranteed medical support throughout their combat lives.

Cruz did not immediately address the Philex offer. He asked Brown to instead update documents regarding alleged mineral lands located inside Fort del Pilar, according to a company source.

Philex originally offered to explore 48.49 (13 percent) of 373 hectares of the PMA reservation on behalf of its joint venture consortium with Anglo American Inc.

Gerald Brimo, Philex's former chair, described this section of PMA in a March 25, 2002, letter to then Armed Forces chief of staff, Gen. Diomedio Villanueva, as "devoid of vegetative cover due to the steepness of the ridges and the mineralized nature of the soil."

The target site is separated from PMA's facilities by a creek and is a kilometer from a squatter colony that thrives near Barangay Kias here.

Brimo told Villanueva that the terrain meant that PMA would have no need for this land. "Kindly note that the Philex-Anglo joint venture controls the mineral claims immediately east of the boundary of the military reservation... For this reason, the joint venture is in a position to conduct the proposed work as no other company would be interested in exploring only the portion inside the military reservation," Brimo said.

But Villanueva already advised then Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes in February 2002 against approving the mining proposal, citing the outcry that may erupt from the PMA alumni and city officials.

On April 19, 2002, Col. Manuel Ibanez Jr., acting Judge Advocate General, affirmed the denial.

Lt. Gen. Edilberto Adan, commander of the AFP Southern Command, also rejected the Philex offer when he assumed the PMA superintendent's post in 2003. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

A PHILEX truck careens through a road in the PMA compound. The company is looking at mining portions of the PMA and has renewed its offer to share income with the military academy.
VINCENT CABREZA/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Canadian firm to pour $12M more into Zambo mining

SIOCON, ZAMBOANGA DEL Norte—Canadian mining outfit TVI Pacific Inc. said it will invest $12 million more at its copper and zinc mine in Canatuan here.

John Ridsdel, TVI country manager, told reporters here that the fresh investments will be used to construct a new mill plant and facilities such as tailings dams.

Ridsdel said TVI will also extract mineral deposits on top of about a million tons of ore currently being mined here for gold and silver.

"The new deposits have a different geologic character compared to the current mine hence it requires a separate extraction process," Yulo Perez, the company's mine manager, said.

TVI estimated that the new deposits account for some 1.5 million tons of ore and contain 1.5 grams of gold per ton, 74.5 grams of silver per ton, 3.35 percent copper and 2.43 percent zinc.

These newly discovered deposits are just underneath the one million tons of ore deposits that contain only gold and silver, which is the subject of the current extraction activities of the company, and for which it has poured in some $24 million.

Ridsdel said plant construction is scheduled to be completed by end of next year while mineral extraction is expected to start by 2007.

Eugene Mateo, president of TVI Pacific's Philippine affiliate, TVI Resources Development Inc., said the copper and zinc outputs will be shipped to Japan. *Ryan Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

ARMM offers canning firms incentives to relocate to region

COTABATO CITY—THE AUtonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) has offered tax, tariff and other unique investment incentives to Zamboanga City-based fish canning companies, which were closing shop due to high operating costs there, to convince them to relocate to the region.

"We offer our ARMM Regional Economic Zone to the canning companies to ease the burden of high cost of production," Regional Trade Secretary Ishak Mastura said.

The three fish canning outfits, Mega, Universal and Atlantic, have reportedly notified the Department of Labor and Employment about their planned "temporary closure" due to high costs of operations.

The decision would displace about 4,500 daily wage earners in Western Mindanao.

Earlier, Miramar Fish Company, which employs more than 1,000 workers, also sent a notice of closure to the labor department.

Mastura said the canning companies could move to Maguindanao and avail themselves of incentive packages under the ARMM's investment code.

"Under the ARMM's Reza (ecozone), companies could avail of tariff and tax bonuses, including marketing representations locally and abroad," Mastura said.

Asked about possible security concerns, Mastura assured the companies that the Reza in Maguindanao is well-secured by policemen and military personnel.

He said the zone is close to Camp SK Pendatun, office of the ARMM regional police.

"We can help them build links with Middle East countries and other Muslim states belonging to the Organization of the Islamic Conference," Mastura said about the kind of marketing assistance the ARMM could provide to relocating companies.

On top of economic and investment incentives, Mastura assured that companies operating in the ARMM Reza, which was patterned after the Philippine Economic Zone, would be protected by regional and national trade laws.

Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan said he was more than willing to make personal representations with business organizations in the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines Economic Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) to convince them to infuse capital in fish canning companies planning to operate in the Reza. *Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Cordillera seen center of college education

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—THE Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) is determined to make the Cordillera the prime educational center for tertiary education in Northern Luzon.

The move will bank on a revitalized educational strategy that includes "indigenizing the curriculum" and allowing the CHEd to dip its fingers into matters that are normally considered purely corporate, Dr. Magdalena Jasmin, CHEd Cordillera director, said.

Part of the approach, she said, is to encourage the business sector to establish businesses in strategic areas other than Baguio City to create an atmosphere conducive for the establishment of educational institutions.

Another is to let the CHEd look into corporate books of universities to see to it that school owners comply with labor, internal revenue and insurance matters, she said.

Jasmin said the Cordillera regional development council had supported the plan following the national government's decision to allow local bodies to chart their educational development programs.

"The commission has committed that there will be no more higher educational institutions to be allowed to rise in Baguio City," Jasmin said on Thursday.

"The city is already congested and schools to be put up will be advised to go farther into the region," she said.

The region has 34 tertiary institutions but the biggest schools are found in Baguio City—Saint Louis University, University of Baguio, University of the Cordilleras and Baguio Central University.

She said the commission is also in the midst of strengthening its regional quality assessment team (RQAT) which is tasked with evaluating and recommending the issuance of permits or recognizing a college's or university's new courses.

Jasmin said the RQAT is the devolved technical working group of the CHEd.

The RQAT is composed of academic experts who will handle the investigation and inspection of a school to determine if its staff, library, instruction and institution are ready to sustain a quality degree program.

Nursing schools will be watched in view of their increasing number caused by the growing demand for nurses abroad, Jasmin said. *Delmar Cariño, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

GROUND WORK
EDWIN BACASMAS
Participants in the recent feast for the lanzones on Camiguin Island take part in a parade to pray for a bountiful harvest of lanzones, their images reflected on a pool of water in the streets.

'Bangus' fry now being used as bait for tuna

DAVAO CITY—INSTEAD OF CONserving milkfish (*bangus*), the country's national fish is now being used as bait for tuna.

George Campeon, regional director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), said the volume of production of full-grown *bangus* in the Davao region has been falling since 2001, and the demand for *bangus* fingerlings has triggered this decline.

Instead of letting the *bangus* fry grow for human consumption, they are used as bait for tuna, he said.

"There is a great demand for these (*bangus*) sizes because they are used as feeds for tuna," Campeon said.

Aside from being bait for tuna, the fingerlings are also being used as feeds in fish cages. The aquaculture industry took off in 2001.

Campeon said the *bangus*' silvery scales attract big fishes like tuna, making it a better bait.

But Campeon said the use of *bangus* as feeds or bait is not illegal as the practice is being done locally.

But other sources said the selling of *bangus* fingerlings to Taiwanese fishermen docking at the Davao City Fish Port Complex is rampant.

Campeon said the *bangus* fingerlings are being sold only to local fishermen and fish growers. *Judy Quiros, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Telecoms firms lose big in rise in cable thefts

By Felipe V. Celino
PDI Visayas Bureau

ROXAS CITY—TELECOMMUNIcations firms are asking local government and police officials to stop the rampant theft of telephone cables, as close to P7 million worth of cable and fiber optic materials have been stolen here since January this year.

Pamela Azarcon, Innove Communications Center head in Roxas, said Globelines lost about P5 million to 16 incidents of theft in Capiz and five in Iloilo since January.

She, however, said the thefts became more frequent in the last two months. Five cases of cable theft were recorded in August and six in September, she said.

Ferdinand Britanico, Globelines senior engineer based in Iloilo City, said the company lost 1,352 meters of telephone cables with 18,070 pairs cut.

The company also lost 108 fiber optic cables—24 in Ivisan and 12 in Panitan towns, both in Capiz and 12 each in the towns of Janiuay, Dueñas, Dingle, Leganes and Cabatuan, all in Iloilo.

At least 213 meters of Globelines cable were stolen in Barangay Banica, Roxas on June 5 and 600 meters in Passi City, in Iloilo on Sept. 5.

Gina Pimentel, Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) acting chief in Roxas, said her company had lost P2 million in telephone and fiber optic cables since January.

Reports submitted by Fernando Degollado, PLDT-Roxas team leader, said on Sept. 12 alone, 48 fiber optic cables were stolen in Panay town, severely affecting its services in the area for almost a week.

Degollado said some 1,470 meters of telephone cables were stolen, with about 2,370 pairs cut.

Aside from Roxas City, PLDT also serves the towns of Panay, Panitan, Pontevedra, Mambusao, Sigma, Jamindan and Sapi-an, all in Capiz.

Degollado said on Oct. 15, 60 meters of cable were stolen in Barangay Tanque and another 60 meters in Barangay Dayao, all in Roxas.

Two cable TV companies here—Alto and Wesfardell—also complained that their lines had been stolen.

Police have yet to make an arrest as all the perpetrators have remained unidentified.

Supt. Rene Espera, former Roxas police chief and now chief of the Regional Mobile Force, admitted difficulty in identifying the suspects.

He said the thieves would usually strike between 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. and in dimly lit places where there were few houses.

The thieves would keep the cables for about a week so they could burn these to remove the bronze before selling them to junk shops.

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

METRO

Text us your feedback:
inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

MMDA drops ticket scheme

By Tarra V. Quismundo

THE METROPOLITAN MANILA DEVELopment Authority (MMDA) would end soon the Metropolitan Traffic Ticket (MTT) scheme and revert to the Traffic Violation Receipts (TVRs), an agency official said yesterday.

"We have already received instructions from the Cabinet to use the TVR. We will make sure it will be done, as instructed," said MMDA general manager Robert Nacianceno.

No reason

Nacianceno said the order from the executive branch to revert to the TVR was issued last Saturday to the MMDA and other agencies involved in transport.

He did not give a reason for the order.

Despite an injunction from a Makati court, the MMDA continued implementing the MTT, while an appeal the agency had filed in the Court of Appeals was pending.

Nacianceno did not give a specific date when the TVR would be issued again, but said the MMDA would follow the Cabinet order "as soon as operationally possible."

With the TVR, traffic enforcers would once again confiscate licenses of errant drivers, who would have to pay fines to redeem their documents.

The MTT, first implemented in 2004, did away with confiscation of licenses. Errant drivers paid their fines at Metrobank branches.

Nacianceno said they would make sure that the public was not inconvenienced.

Legality questioned

Transport groups had questioned the legality of the MTT in court, along with other MMDA traffic programs like the No Contact Traffic Apprehension (NCTA) scheme and Organized Bus Route scheme (OBR).

Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 145 Judge Cesar Santamaria upheld only the OBR's validity.

He declared the MTT void, and the NCTA "unconstitutional."

Rally

Yesterday, some 1,000 protesters, consisting mainly of transport groups but including children and women, rallied in front of the MMDA office on Orense Street corner Edsa in Makati City to protest the MTT scheme.

They also demanded the resignation of MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando, who was then in Marikina for another engagement.

"He (Fernando) should first follow the law. We could see that he himself does not follow the law, so what's the point of obeying him?" said Efren de Luna, national president of the Philippine Confederation of Drivers Organizations-Alliance of Concerned Transport Operators (PCDO-Acto).

De Luna said traffic enforcement functions should be returned to the Land Transportation Office, and the MMDA and local governments should not meddle in road rules implementation.

No comment

Fernando refused yesterday to answer questions on the rally in front of his office as he joined his wife Marikina Mayor Marides Fernando in inaugurating a separate detention cell for minor offenders at the Marikina City Jail.

"I will not accept questions about the rally," he told television reporters after the short program.

In a statement yesterday, the militant group Pagkakaisa ng mga Samahan ng Tsuper at Operator Nationwide warned of a bigger transport strike if their demands were snubbed. *With Edson C. Tandoc Jr.*

METROBRIEFS

Promotion for 162 cops

ONE HUNDRED sixty-two policemen were promoted for protecting Malacañang during the May 1, 2001 violent uprising, the National Police Commission (Napolcom) said yesterday. "The Napolcom approved the meritorious promotion of the police officers after the PNP Special Promotions, Awards, and Decorations Board (SPADB) recognized their heroism in preserving peace and order in the country in the face of a raging mob during and in the days leading to the May 1, 2001 rebellion," said Napolcom Chair Angelo Reyes in a statement. He had made the same announcement in July when the commission promoted 577 lawmen for helping control the crowd that marched towards Malacañang in 2001. At the time, supporters of former President Estrada stormed Malacañang in protest against the installation as President of his then Vice President, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

2 girls drown in pool

A BIBLE study session turned into a tragedy for the families of two girls who drowned in a pool at the Jehovah's Witness compound in San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City. The bodies of Jen Lorraine Napalang, 8, and Darren del Prado, 7, were found at the bottom of a swimming pool inside the compound the other day. The two girls were apparently playing by the pool before the study group could start its session, said Investigator SPO1 Felipe Tumibay. The girls were rushed to the hospital but staffer members were not able to revive them. *DJ Yap*

Prayer Art Exhibit

THE PRAYER Art Exhibit featuring over 100 paintings by 22 artists is ongoing until Oct. 27 at the Elim Center for Renewal, 51 10th St., Rolling Hills Village, New Manila, Quezon City. Proceeds from the exhibit will benefit Springs Foundation Inc. Featured artists include Remy Boquiren, Jess Evangelista, Dondon Nakar, Nel Paguinto, Sherwin Tan and Arlene Villaver. The exhibit is part of the ongoing Excellence Conference 2005.

ALEXANDRA Braun Waldeck of Venezuela (2nd from left) is the new Miss Earth. Other winners are Jovana Marjanovic (left)of Serbia and Montenegro, Miss Fire; Amell Sanata (2nd, right) of the Dominican Republic, Miss Air; and Katarzyna Borowivz of Poland, Miss Water.

RUDY ESPERAS

Venezuelan model is new Miss Earth

By Armin Adina

VENEZUELA PROVED ONCE AGAIN its solid reputation as a rich source of beauty queens when one of its stunning residents, Alexandra Braun, beat 79 other contestants for the 2005 Miss Earth title.

The new beauty queen was crowned Sunday at the University of the Philippines Theater.

Amell Santana of the Dominican Republic, the tallest candidate at 6-foot-1, was second and was named Miss Air. Miss World 2004 finalist; Katarzyna Borowicz of Poland was Miss Water while Serbia and Montenegro's Jovana Marjanovic was Miss Fire.

Braun, a 22-year-old model from Nueva Esparta, also got the prize for Best in Swimsuit. She was first runner up in last month's Miss Venezuela pageant, one of the toughest national beauty contests in the world. Santana was also runner up in the Dominican Republic pageant.

For the final round, the top four contestants were asked to choose between air and water. Braun, who picked air, said through an interpreter, "Although both are needed, I consider air the more important one because it gives life."

Miss Earth, organized by the Manila-based Carousel Productions, is the only pageant that helps promote the conservation of the environment. Others in the Top 8 were Amanda Kimmel of the United States, Best in Long Gown winner Vanessa de Roide of Puerto Rico, Miss Photogenic Nataly Chilet of Chile and Miss World veteran Tania Domaniczky of Paraguay. Miss Philippines Gennebelle Raagas was in the Top 16.

Socialite Rosemarie "Baby" Arenas chaired the board of judges that included INQUIRER lifestyle columnist Tessa Prieto-Valdes and 2001 Miss Earth Catharina Svensson of Denmark.

A lean and mean Armed Forces

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILippines (AFP) is asking Congress for an additional P3.9 billion to create 12 new Army battalions. But Cebu Rep. Eduardo Gullas says the government cannot accommodate the AFP's request.

"Any form of increased military spending constitutes unproductive spending, which we can't afford at this time," says Gullas. He is right. The government doesn't have the money to fund 12 new battalions or 6,000 soldiers (at 500 soldiers per battalion).

Why does the military have to recruit new members when it can train its present crop of soldiers into a mean and lean fighting machine?

Creating new battalions is not the answer to fight the Moro and communist insurgency. The solution lies in making soldiers more efficient in the art of war. This means more training and discipline for the soldiers. Besides, additional troops for the AFP are not necessary since we have a Navy with no ships and an Air Force with no planes.

* * *

The front-page photos in some newspapers recently showed heavily-armed Coast Guard personnel aboard a rubber boat patrolling Manila Bay purportedly to prevent terrorists from entering the metropolis via the sea.

How could the Coast Guard guard the metropolis against terrorists when it can't even protect fishermen from pirates in Manila Bay? There are reports that pirates in Manila Bay board foreign ships anchored offshore and rob their crew members. Besides, how can the Coast Guard attend to the safety of the fishermen and foreign ships on Manila Bay when one of its top-ranking officials is allegedly preoccupied with sexually harassing female suppliers following up contracts in his office?

* * *

The Catholic Church in Capiz has expressed anger with the report of an "*aswang*" (witch) festival to be held on Oct. 28-30 in the province. The archbishop of Capiz, Onesimo Gordoncillo, says the festival glorifies evil and paganism. But organizers of the affair say the witches' festival is meant to draw tourists to the province.

Aswang **in Philippine folklore is a creature that preys on pregnant women by eating the babies in their wombs. Only the ignorant and the gullible believe in *aswang*. The festival organizers aim to debunk the common belief that Capiz is the "*aswang* capital of the Philippines." The festival is no different from the celebration of All Saints Day and All Souls Day celebrated with costume parties featuring monsters and witches. Now, who's glorifying the mythical *aswang*: the archbishop, who loudly protests its existence, or festival organizers who make a joke about the *aswang*?**

Caloocan sets up price watchdog to protect consumers

By Nancy C. Carvajal

A COORDINATING COUNCIL that would serve as a price watchdog to protect consumers from unscrupulous businessmen has been set up in Caloocan City.

"The council would ensure that prices of basic goods remain low and reasonable" said City Mayor Enrico Echiverri, who also acts as the council's chair.

Echiverri said the creation of the monitoring group would help cushion the impact of price increases in anticipation of the implementation of the Value Added Tax or VAT.

He said the government's inevitable application of the new tax law and the impact of international oil price increases would seriously hurt ordinary consumers.

The group is tasked to recommend price ceilings and standards for prime commodities

Among the duties and functions of the council are to conduct in-depth analysis on various causes of price fluctuations and recommend necessary measures to correct unwarranted increases and artificial shortage of supplies.

As chair, Echiverri would also conduct public hearings and initiate talks with representatives of local factories, distributors, vendors and consumers.

To ensure the success of the group, various agencies of the local government, including law enforcers, were included as members, the mayor added.

Local business groups represented by the City's Chamber of Commerce and Trade, and the education sector from the Division of City Schools were asked to join the council along with the Office of the City Prosecutor, market administrator, the chief of the permit and licensing office, and the City Health Office, among others.

Jaylo agents face extortion charges

By Tina G. Santos

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS FORmally charged 11 operatives of the defunct Presidential Anti-Illegal Recruitment Task Force (PAIRTF) arrested two weeks ago for alleged extortion activities.

The PAIRTF was under the supervision of former Senior Insp. Reynaldo Jaylo.

Charges of robbery, usurpation of authority, qualified bribery and violation of the anti-graft and corrupt practices act were filed in the Manila Prosecutor's Office against SPO2 Santiago Sy and PO3 Francisco Quito of the Traffic Management Group; SPO1 Romeo Noriega and PO2 Dexter Ramile of the Manila Police District; and intelligence officers Rolando Arce, Mercy Grace Gamores, Allan Tubil, Ruel Lontoc, Nelson Ferrer, Ricardo Duque and Christopher Lucero.

Senior State Prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco said the illegal possession of firearms complaint was withheld as he was still waiting for a report from the Firearms and Explosive Division of the Philippine National Police.

But Velasco recommended that Jaylo, now Philippine Overseas Employment Administration director, and other PAIRTF officers and personnel undergo preliminary investigation to determine complicity, if any, with the respondents.

The case stemmed from a complaint filed by Jerome and Mary Jane France in the National Bureau of Investigation. The pair accused the PAIRTF agents of unlawful arrest. The suspects also asked for P200,000 for their release, the couple added.

The respondents, currently detained at the NBI headquarters, were arrested in an entrapment operation by the bureau's Intelligence Special Operations Division and Special Task Force.

Long faces line longest buffet

By Volt Contreras

AN ATTEMPT TO SET A WORLD RECORD IN dining delights may have also set a record in disappointments.

A commercial center in Quezon City, claiming it had served the world's "longest buffet," broke a record earlier set in France by offering a grand dinner of 400 different dishes on tables stretching up to 350 meters.

But the charity fund raiser, held at the Eastwood City complex in Libis and endorsed by the Department of Tourism, apparently underestimated hungry crowds that showed up for the outdoor feast. By many accounts reaching the INQUIRER, hundreds who had expected hearty and exotic meals worthy of the P350 admission ticket want their money back from the organizers.

They complained there was not enough food to last the night, resulting in long and forcing famished ticket-holders to head to neighboring restaurants. Eastwood City President Eric Soriano said the management was "sincerely apologizing to those who were not accommodated" and that it would give refunds.

Soriano traced the "operational glitch" to the unexpected hoard of patrons, some even coming in buses from the provinces, whom organizers were forced to serve even after ticket sales were officially closed the day before. At around 9 p.m. or two hours after the buffet was declared open, the INQUIRER still ran into couples, entire families and gangmates holding empty plate.

In a statement yesterday, Eastwood management said that while about 5,000 people from around Metro Manila "came to support the event... a few groups expressed disappointment at how certain sections of the buffet had closed earlier than expected, due to the overwhelming attendance."

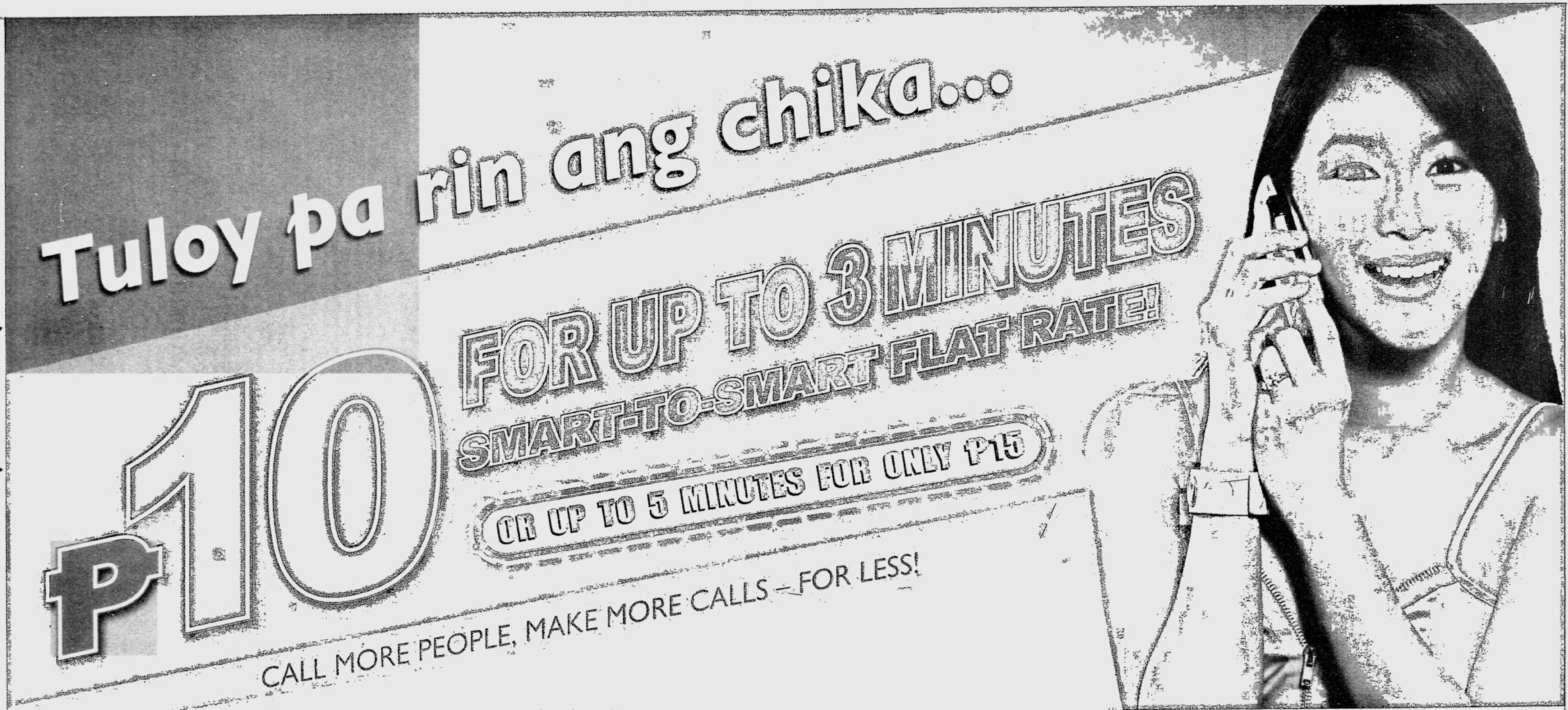
Kevin Tan, director for commercial services, clarified that "many patrons coming from the provinces still kept coming long after (organizers) had stopped selling tickets to the buffet."

Soriano said Eastwood would refund ticket-holders by exchanging the P350 ticket for cash at the Eastwood's administration office, through marketing manager Chito Bauzon, or using the ticket at Eastwood establishments to get the equivalent amount in food purchases, movie admission, or parking fees.

But to make sure only patrons who were not served in the buffet get the refund, Eastwood said it would only refund tickets that were not yet torn, as well as those signed by the organizing staff on the night of the buffet.

According to Eastwood, it laid out the "longest documented buffet to date, beating France's 286-meter record by a wide margin with 350 meters." A total of 36 restaurants in the high-end commercial complex contributed to the menu that featured cuisines from 10 countries. Soriano said the project was a fund raiser for impoverished children.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



Tuloy pa rin ang chika...

₱10 FOR UP TO 3 MINUTES

SMART-TO-SMART FLAT RATE!

OR UP TO 5 MINUTES FOR ONLY ₱15

CALL MORE PEOPLE, MAKE MORE CALLS – FOR LESS!

Great news! CALL MORE PEOPLE and MAKE MORE SMART-TO-SMART CALLS until November 18, 2005!

- Nationwidest Coverage
- **UNMATCHED VALUE** No matter what time of the day, you can make that 3-minute call for only ₱10 or a 5- minute call for only ₱15!
- **ABSOLUTE CONVENIENCE** No need to Register.
- Switch from flat rate to regular calls with no hassle.

*Available to all pre-paid brands within the SMART network.

SMART Load

Load now to avail of Flat rate calls up to 5 minutes.

To make a FLATRATE call.

1. Text the number of the party you're calling, ex: 09209827365

2. And send to 883. 883

3. You will receive a call from 883

Answer the call and you will hear a ringtone. The party you're calling will receive a call from your number. You can start talking when he/she answers the call.

Rates:

Length of call:	Price:
1 sec. – 3 mins.	Php 10/call
3.01 mins. – 5 mins.	Php 15/call

Save up to 50%.

SMART Simply Amazing!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5577 Series of 2005
Promo extended until November 18, 2005

• Open to all SMART & Talk 'N Text subscribers with a balance of ₱15 up. • Calls shall automatically be cut off after 5 minutes. To make another call, simply dial again. • Not applicable to international calls.

SPORTS TV

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: 2005 NFL – Falcons vs Jets; 9 a.m. (r - 12:30 a.m.); ESPN – Atlanta battles New York in the AFC.

BILLIARDS: US 9-Ball Open; 9 p.m.; Solar Sports – The best cue artists gather in Virginia.

Compiled by L. Mangulat

SPORTS

Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Bustamante nips Orcollo for top cash /A26
- White Sox down Astros anew /A27

New PBA rules pave way for Menk's return

By June Navarro

ERIC MENK CAN NOW STOP searching for his hard-to-find citizenship documents.

The PBA board of governors yesterday adopted a new set of guidelines on the eligibility of foreign-born players suspended by the league, paving the way for the return of Barangay Ginebra's prize forward Menk.

After an extensive discussion, commissioner Noli Eala said the board agreed to pardon the suspended players who can meet the following conditions:

- He should have played for at least three PBA seasons and suited up, even for just a game, during the 2004-2005 season.
- He should be a Philippine passport holder.
- He should have seen action for the RP men's basketball team at least once.
- He must have had a positive impact on the league prior to his suspension.

Menk, back-to-back conference and Finals MVP during the Gin Kings' pair of title runs last season, is a cinch for reinstatement since he holds a Philippine passport, having represented the country in the 2002 Busan Asian Games.

"The decision to adopt a new criteria has been necessitated by recent legal developments which have made the PBA's continued reliance on the [Department of Justice] as ineffective and misplaced," said Eala.

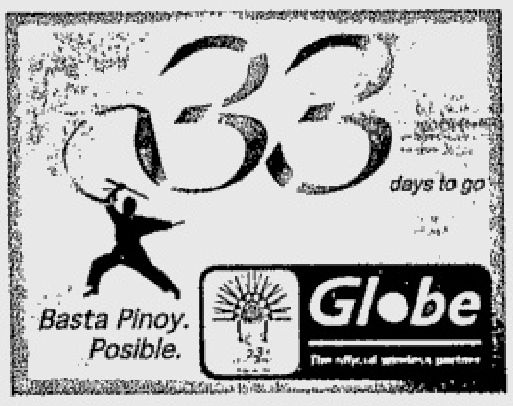
Eala added that the new set of conditions applies only to players suspended by the league due to citizenship problems. It also replaced the requirements on foreign-born players that were adopted by the league early this year.

The league used to depend solely on the justice department to decide whether a foreign-born player is eligible to join the PBA.

Acting on a recommendation by a Senate committee, the DOJ declared late last year that Asi Taulava, Davonn Harp, Mick Pennisi, Alex Crisano, Rudy Hatfield and Jon Ordonio were fake Filipinos and ordered their deportation.

Tightening the screws further, the PBA also required at least 20 foreign-born players to submit additional citizenship papers or face suspension.

The new development does not sit well, however, with the group of homegrown players led by Sta. Lucia Realty's Marlou Aquino, who promised to bring their case against the foreign-born players to the Senate or Malacañang.



ASIA INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS, INC.

AiA

...Your Best Source of Quality Machines in Asia...

Lower Mau Camp, Argonaut Hi-way, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines
Tel #: (63-47) 252-3333
Fax #: (63-47) 252-6840 · (63-47) 252-1441

COME & SEE FOR YOURSELF!

Trucks & Equipment

3-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION

Over 1,800 items to be sold!

AUCTION STYLE : PARADE

OCTOBER 28, 29 & 30, 2005
(Friday, Saturday & Sunday)
Sale Starts at 8:00 a.m.

INSPECTION STARTS TODAY

Inspection Dates: Oct. 25, 26 & 27
(Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday)

UPGRADED QUALITY UNITS & LATE MODEL TRUCKS!

62 - EXCAVATORS — SUMITOMO S430F-2
25 - BULLDOZERS — KOMATSU D80A-18
164 - CARGO TRUCKS — ISUZU GIGA CARGO TRUCK
42 - REEFER VANS — ISUZU GIGA REEFER VAN TRUCK
29 - WHEEL LOADERS — TCM 75BN
24 - TANKER TRUCKS — FUSO LPG TANKER TRUCK-19KL
34 - SELF-LOADERS — ISUZU CXZ SELF-LOADING W/ BOOM
27 - MOTOR GRADERS — MITSUBISHI LG2H
28 - GARBAGE COMPACTORS — ISUZU ELF GARBAGE COMPACTOR (Late Model)

Trucks & Equipment Financing available thru:
ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp. Head Office: Tel. #: (02) 858-8888

Online Brochure Available

Online Tender Auction Available

Inquire & Register Online via http://www.asia-intl-auctioneers.com Email: aiainc@subictel.com

Love or leave.

Embrace the city with the Chevrolet Lumina; or escape it with the Chevrolet Trailblazer EXT.

CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER EXT
0% interest for 12 months*

CHEVROLET LUMINA
0% interest for 36 months*

Either choice ensures lavish interiors, replete with comforts only for the privileged few. Wherever the path leads, it doesn't matter. For when it comes to luxury, Chevrolet is always ahead. Visit for a test drive today.

*50% downpayment

I am CHEVROLET

CHEVROLET 24hr. ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

MAKATI 867-8183 to 87 • QUEZON AVENUE 374-1250 TO 59 • SHAW 635-4944, 633-6349, 633-8376, 633-1263 • PASIG 672-1612 to 14, 672-1486 • ALABANG 771-1206 to 09 • NORTH EDSA 374-9992 to 97, 374-9963 • MANILA 564-0129
CEBU (032) 234-0426 to 29 • PAMPANGA (045) 963-3333, (045) 860-2000 • DAVAO (082) 300-7777, (082) 236-3811 • CAGAYAN DE ORO (08822) 722-999, (088) 857-9999 • DAGUPAN (075) 523-7777, (075) 523-1835, (075) 516-5577

Sambajon pockets P4M in Skins

ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY—Filipino Santos Sambajon became an instant millionaire by emerging champion in the 2005 Skins Billiard Championship Saturday (Sunday in Manila) at the Resorts and Hotel Casino here.

The 45-year-old Sambajon topped a three-game sudden-death playoff, the last the expense of American Danny Basavich, to pocket a total of $73,000 (about P4.07 million) in the two-day, elite 16-man tournament.

Sambajon, native of Macacelon, Quezon, advanced to the finals by winning a three-game playoff for $16,500 at the end of his semifinal assignments Friday.

Joining Sambajon in the chase for $54,000, divided into Skins for each of 12 games, were Basavich, American Cory Deuel and Filipino pool legend Jose "Amang" Parica.

Sambajon won the 12th game at the expense of Basavich to get a shot at the $54,000.

Sambajon collected the 13th game after Deuel fouled on a shot on the 3 ball. In the 14th game, Parica left Sambajon with a shot on the 4. Sambajon sank it, but the cue ball spun around the table and caromed off the 6 into the pocket. Parica cleaned up to trigger the playoff.

Basavich knocked out Deuel with a bank on the 2 that combo in the 9. In the next game, Sambajon took advantage of a loose Parica safety to prevail.

In the last game, Sambajon on the lag, sank three balls on his break, and ran out for the mammoth paycheck.

Marlon Bernardino, contributor

COSETENG

PNTC duel shapes up

A RIVALRY BETWEEN JODY COSETENG and Enzo Pastor has simmered in the Philippine National Touring Car Championships after two action-packed weekends at the Batangas Racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas.

Coseteng, acknowledged as the country's winningest competition driver, and Pastor, his heir-apparent, split the first four races of the 12-part series presented by Race Fans Inc. and sanctioned by the Automobile Association of the Philippines.

In their most recent duels, Pastor clocked a fast 1:53.081 minutes in the second lap of the third round, but Coseteng did even better with 1:53.039 in the seventh lap of the fourth round.

Experts also predict that several equally talented drivers like brothers Kookie and Louie Ramirez, Philip Alvendia, Dominic Bon, Renan Morales, Peewee Mendiola and Dominic Tan can muddle up the race for the coveted Driver of the Year award when the series enters its third weekend on Nov. 5 and 6.

4 of 8 UAAP execs want 3-yr ban on La Salle

By Musong R. Castillo

NO LESS THAN A THREE-YEAR suspension for De La Salle University.

This is what four of the eight UAAP board members want to impose on the Archers, who admitted they unwittingly fielded two ineligible players when they won the varsity basketball championship in 2004.

One board member told the INQUIRER that a one-year ban would be "too soft," just like the penalty the league imposed on Adamson in 1994 for allowing Marlou Aquino to play for the Falcons despite scholastic deficiencies.

A longer suspension is "justified," according to another board member, since La Salle's case involves two players and public documents—not internal school records—were falsified.

"We will ask government agencies, particularly the NBI (National Bureau of Investigation) to look into this case once La Salle is done with its own (investigation)," the second member said.

"We have to do this because it seems to be a well-orchestrated scam, and it could happen to others in the future. We need to expose who these people are and what their MO [modus operandi] is."

A fifth board member interviewed by the INQUIRER, however, said that the feeling of guilt and shame La Salle is going through at the moment is enough punishment.

"They were magnanimous in admitting that they are at fault," he said. "This thing could have been kept a secret for who knows how long. What I think the board needs to do at this time is to just make sure that there will not be a repeat of this incident.

"And, if there ever were other cases before, we should be able to uncover all of them."

Under an agreement forged several years ago, only the league president is authorized to release statements to the media. This has prevented the five board members from identifying themselves.

"They have been mocking our rules for the last three years," another board member said. "They should have policed their ranks because things like these could have been nipped in the bud."

Mark Benitez and Tim Gatchalian are widely believed to be the two ineligible players which the Green Archers admitted to have fielded from 2003-2005 and 2003-2004, respectively.

An INQUIRER source said both had pointed to members of the team's staff as the officials who facilitated their PEP test results in separate testimonies given to a La Salle fact-finding committee last week.

Those PEP test results were used to secure admission to La Salle, an institution with very strict and high admission standards.

La Salle is expected to announce the results of its investigation this week. The UAAP board meeting that will decide on the fate of La Salle is set in the third week of November.

Aquino's scholastic deficiencies were discovered when he was refused admission into the Philippine Basketball Association rookie draft for lacking the required 48 units in college for pro hopefuls aged 23 and under. Aquino later admitted to having completed just 18 units.

DJANGO Bustamante delivers despite hurting elbow. ROGER CARPIO

9-BALL RP OPEN

Bustamante nips Orcollo for top cash

BUCKING A HURTING RIGHT ELBOW, FRANcisco "Django" Bustamante survived a four-hour marathon finals to hoist his first truly national open trophy Sunday night.

Bustamante played a total of 26 racks on the final day of the Philippine 9-Ball Open, capping his gutsy show with a come-from-behind 15-13 victory over Dennis Orcollo in the championship match at the Robinson's Galleria Trade Hall.

The former world No. 1 who earlier beat giant-killer Mario Tolentino in the semifinals, 11-8, earned P500,000 in the tournament co-organized by Puyat Sports and Solar Sports.

Orcollo, an 11-8 winner over Ronnie Alcano in the other semifinal duel, settled for P250,000.

Bustamante said he was more relieved than happy after the victory he shared with pregnant wife Mila, who was at the venue from Day 1 to cheer him at the table.

The 42-year-old pride of Tarlac is set to undergo tests yesterday to determine if he's fit to play long tournaments because of the nagging pain on his right elbow.

The injury seemed to have taken its toll on Bustamante in the finals.

Known for his strong breaking game, he suffered three dry spells in seven tries as Orcollo took an 8-6 lead.

Orcollo's dry break in the 15th frame proved to be the turning point of the match as Bustamante clustered two racks to level the score at 8-all.

A pocketing error by Orcollo on the 25th led to another two-rack cluster by Bustamante and shoved the former world No. 1 to the hill, 14-12.

Both players held their breaks from there to settle the final score.

Pacquiao pledge boosts Espinosa benefit card

BOXING HERO MANNY PACQUIAO HAS PLEDGED P100,000 to the 76-round card organized for the benefit of former two-time world champion Luisito Espinosa. Pacquiao will pay for the tickets of the first 1,000 spectators who will watch two Philippine title fights on Nov. 5 at the San Andres sports complex. Braveheart Promotion, which hopes to raise P500,000 for Espinosa's legal battles, said the card has to be moved a week from its original Oct. 29 playdate due to the unavailability of the venue. "Manny's gesture will surely go a long way in our desire to help Luisito," said North Cotabato Gov. Manny Piñol, the event's prime mover. Eric Barcelona and Fernando Montilla will defend their respective RP crowns in a pair of 12-round bouts. Espinosa, who is locked in a nine-year legal battle against former manager Rodolfo Nazario, is expected to attend the card. The US-based Espinosa failed to collect his $150,000 purse following his win over Carlos Rios of Argentina in 1996.

RP SEAG shooting squad loaded with veterans

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE PHILIPPINE SHOOTING TEAM TO NEXT month's Southeast Asian Games is loaded with former Olympians and veterans of world championships who are gunning for 10 gold medals.

Former world speed shooting champion Jethro Dionisio, Olympians Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and Emerito "Mae" Concepcion will banner the 25-man team, according to the list released by PNSA president Art Macapagal.

Macapagal earlier said the country could win as many as 10 gold medals especially with the inclusion of practical pistol which became a gold mine for the country in 1991 when the Philippines took the shooting title.

Like in swimming, the Philippines hauled 10 gold medals in shooting back in 1991, helping propel the country to a 91-gold finish, just a gold short of overall titlist Indonesia.

This time, though, Macapagal said that the strongest opposition will come from Vietnam, which took the lion's share of the 45 gold medals disputed in the 2003 Vietnam SEAG.

Only 18 golds are at stake this time.

Macapagal said the RP shooters will certainly enjoy hometown advantage with competitions slated in Muntinlupa and the Fort.

Golf and lightning

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

IN THE PHILIPPINES TODAY, NOT EVERY golf course is equipped with lightning arresters. That is a sad reality since we're not only part of the international typhoon belt but we've also become a golf-crazed country.

I'm reminded of a recent tragedy at the Royal Johor Country Club in Kuala Lumpur where, on April 30 this year, two golfers died and six others (two golfers and four caddies) were injured after lightning struck the rain shed where they sought shelter in during a downpour.

The bodies of the two fatalities and the six injured showed no outward signs of burns or scars. The two died of cardiac arrest through side-flashing, a phenomenon whereby lightning jumps from an object hit by lightning to another nearby object or person.

In a similar incident, five golfers had taken shelter under a tree during a thunderstorm. A lightning hit the tree, killing three and injuring the other two.

Again, no outward signs of burns or scars were seen from among the five.

Again, the verdict: the five were hit by a side-flashing of a current, affecting their body and causing their heart to stop. Thus cardiac arrest was again the cause of death of the three.

There is this belief that when there's a thunderstorm, the best way to avoid getting hit by a lightning is to seek shelter under a tree or a rain shed.

That is wrong.

According to some experts, including my buddy Bart Puzon, one is more prone to suffer injuries while under a tree or when inside a rain shed or drink house than when one is in an open space during a lightning-spiked thunderstorm.

The courses generally considered safe for golf when there's a thunderstorm because they are equipped with LPS (Lightning Protection System, a.k.a. lightning arrester) are Sta. Elena, Manila Golf Club, Manila Southwoods, Riviera, Fairways and Blue Water, Mimosa, Forest Hills, Mt. Malarayat, Tat Filipinas, Alabang, Tagaytay Midlands, Club Intramuros and Splendido.

Said Bart Puzon: "Prior to the electronic era, we had the conventional lightning protection system using the copper rod as terminal. There were no LPS then in golf courses. Today, the LPS is with us to safely conduct the high-voltage lightning energy from the lightning terminal down to the ground."

After the recent Kamayan-Media dual tournament at Aguinaldo, lightning became a hot topic, and it was Bart who gave several golfers a crash course about golf and lightning.

"The LPS installed in a golf course does not totally save one from injuries," he said. "It can minimize accidents, but not totally eradicate accidents. Side-flashing is the No. 1 culprit in lightning and it can damage a building's integrity, life and limb."

Like earthquakes, lightning is unpredictable.

"We will not be able to predict whether a lightning will be this strong or this weak," Bart said. "In any case, it is a lot better to have an 85 percent or 93 percent protection for both levels than nothing at all."

It is a pity that some famous golf courses don't have lightning arresters.

Bart (his cell phone number is 0917-8033345) and I believe there ought to be a law requiring all golf courses to install lightning arresters.

Meanwhile, why not pester your club officers to install one, if your course doesn't have one yet?

It's your right to be alive.

* * *

TIA LILAY. A dear aunt of mine has passed away. Tia Lilay (Lilia Mendoza Sison), reaching the ripe age of 90, was tough but sweet. She embodied righteousness and was always humble. Her remains, lying at the BMS Mall in Calvo Street, Mangatarem, Pangasinan, will be interred this Saturday at the town's Roman Catholic cemetery after an 8 a.m. Mass. The wife of the late Tio Napoleon, my departed father's best friend, Tia Lilay left behind children Madam Atchie Minerva, Kuya Napi, Kuya Bonnie, Lily, Vicky, Didi and Soc (all professionals), and sister Tia Soleng, 96, my beloved teacher in Grade 3. You will be missed, Tia Lilay.

* * *

E-mail: menju@pldtdsl.net

SPORTSWATCH

PCCr juniors make it 8 in a row

ADRIAN CELADA AND JOEL MENDOZA INFLICTED THE MOST DAMAGE AS Philippine College of Criminology blasted Las Piñas College, 82-37, and retained the junior crown in the Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (Cusa) basketball tournament at the CCP gym. Celada and Mendoza combined for 31 points for the Junior Enforcers who swept their 12-game schedule on the way to their eight straight championship and ninth overall since 1996. "The boys played very hard to achieve our goal," said PCCr coach Gene Roland Tumapat. Manuel L. Quezon University interrupted the PCCr reign only in 1997. "This is another milestone for the team," said PCCr sports director Rolando Tumapat.

BSP-Pasig golf tomorrow at Sherwood Hills

THE FIRST BSP-PASIG CITY COUNCIL INVITATIONAL GOLF CHALLENGE TEES off tomorrow at the Sherwood Hills Country Club in Trece Martirez, Cavite. The event is being staged by the Boy Scouts of the Philippines-Pasig City Council "Laging Handa" and Noel "Toti" Cariño of Fil-Estate Group of Companies in cooperation with Diamond Motors (Ugong branch), Ortigas and Co. Ltd. and Readycon Trading and Construction Group. More than 100 golfers are vying for honors in the tournament, according to Barangay San Antonio chair, ABC (Association of Barangay Captains) president and BSP-Pasig City Council finance committee chair Gregorio "Greg" Rupisan Sr. and Barangay Kapitolyo chair and BSP-Pasig City Council vice chair Restituto "Resty" M.A. Cabrera Jr. A Mitsubishi car from Diamond Motors and other valuable prizes will be up for grabs, says Barangay Ugong chair Alexee "Lex" Santiago. The Blind Callaway format will be used in the tourney sponsored by San Miguel Corp., Uniserve and CMMC Construction Inc.

NCA 7-stag derby starts tonight

THE NATIONAL COCKERS ASSOCIATION (NCA) 7-STAG DERBY STARTS AT 7 tonight at the Makati Coliseum. Hosts are Representatives Gerry "Boy" Espina and Iggy Arroyo, Ram Lopez and the Ampil Brothers. Focus will be on the battle for NCA Stagfighter of the Year title being contested by 15 entries. Rep. Jing Paras and Biboy Enriquez (McKinley Firebird) lead the pack with 19.5 points. Pursuing them are Patrick Antonio, Rep. Ronnie Puno, Jun Santiago, Gov. Ito Ynares, Boy Jiao, Lito Orillaza, Frank Berin and Rudy Albano. The Stagfighter winner will be known after the Grand Championship 8-stag derby on Nov. 15, 17 and 19. For inquiries, call 896-3545 or 895-6475.

Fair matching for GCAP Big Event

TO ATTAIN FAIR AND CREDIBLE MATCHING OF ENTRIES, ACTUAL WEIGH-in and "bola" system will be adopted by organizers of the GCAP Big Event 8-stag derby at the San Juan Coliseum. The event, backed up by Sagupaan Complexor 3000, is slated tomorrow and Saturday. Participants must bring their stags at SJC office on derby day, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. The derby starts at 2 p.m. with more than 90 fights lined up. Among the participants are Patrick Antonio and Representatives Jing Paras and Butch Pichay.

Roligon hosts Clean Up fights Nov. 12

ROLIGON MEGA-COCKPIT GIRDS UP FOR TWO BIG DERBIES, BEGINNING WITH the Clean Up 4-stag derby on Nov. 12. Guaranteed prize is P300,000 for an entry fee of P5,500. Stags previously banded for Stag Festival derby are automatically accepted. Those banded by Edgar Coronel for "Labanan" stagfest are also allowed (blue leg bands only). Set on Dec. 5, 7, 10 and 12 is the Apordabol Na, Incredibol Pa 5-cock derby, where P2 million and a brand New Mazda are up for grabs. For inquiries, call 851-2275, 833-1638 or 852-9812.

RACING TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Kusang Loob 2. Tanging Ikaw 3. Better Both

Race 2—1. Friendly Fire 2. Crafty Treasure 3. Mark My Word 4. Heart of My Soul

Race 3—1. Ocean Cookie 2. Valid Hazm 3. Red Storm 4. Do it David

Race 4—1. Tout Est Grace 2. Cape Don 3. Rhyme and A Prayer 4. Dark Desert

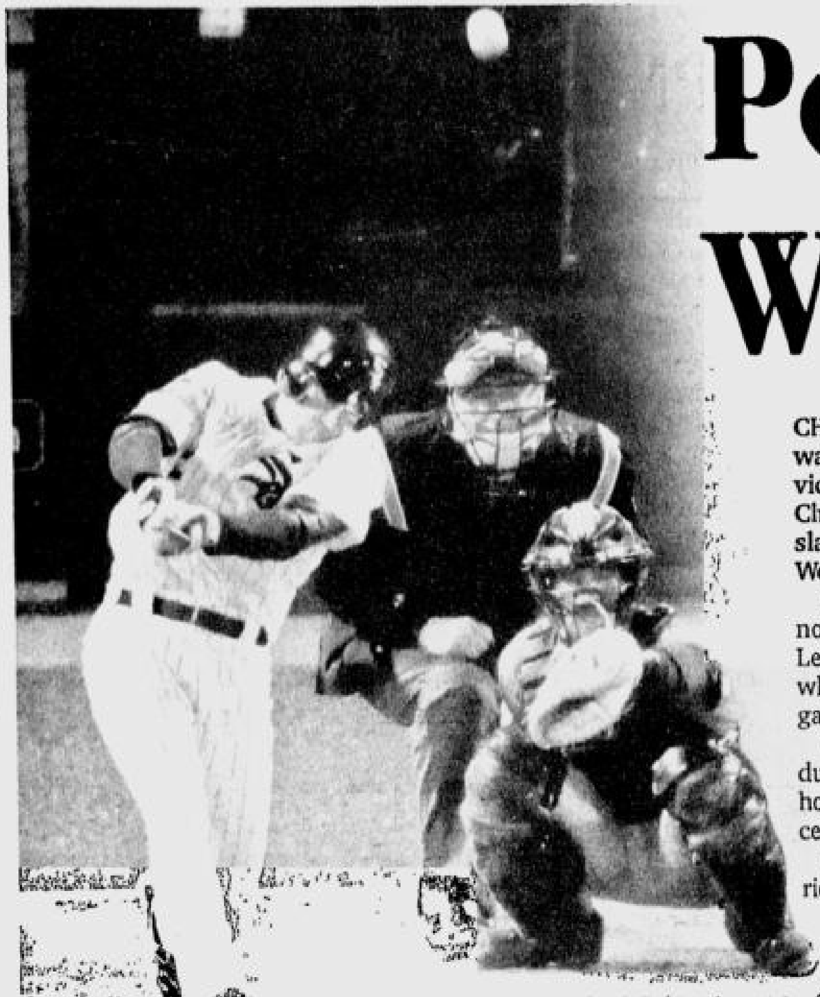
Race 5—1. Ocean Deep/At All Cost 2 Jedi 4. Sweet Felicity

Race 6—1. Perky Perp 2. Victory Ranger 3. Seniority 4. Dixie Dash 5. Demolition Jack

Race 7—1. Bom's Bom's 2 Besame Mucho 3. En Carta 4. Summit Power

Race 8—1. Vico Free 2. Lord of the Ring 3. Candon's Pride/Princess Sarah 4 Valiente 5. Yao Man 6 Music Quest

Podsednik homer lifts White Sox past Astros



WHITE Sox's Scott Podsednik hits the game-winning home run in the ninth. AP

CHICAGO—SCOTT PODSEDNIK BELTED A walk-off home run to seal a 7-6 White Sox victory over Houston on Sunday, ensuring Chicago teammate Paul Konerko's grand slam didn't go to waste in game two of the World Series.

The White Sox seized a two-games-to-none lead in the best-of-seven Major League Baseball championship series, which heads to Houston on Tuesday for game three.

Podsednik, who didn't homer in 507 at-bats during the regular season, hit his second home run of the playoffs with one out into the center field seats off Astros closer Brad Lidge.

It was the 14th walk-off homer in World Series history.

"This one came at good time," Podsednik said. "To hit one out of the ballpark for a game-winner is pretty much indescribable. (But) we haven't accomplished anything yet. We still have to get two more wins."

Lidge had also surrendered Albert Pujols' three-run, two-out ninth-inning shot in game five of the National League Championship Series.

"I threw a fastball in a bad spot," Lidge said.

Konerko's grand slam came with two outs in the seventh off Chad Qualls, who had retired 18 of the last 19 batters he faced.

The towering shot into the leftfield bleachers—the first ever postseason grand slam by a White Sox player—erased a 4-2 deficit and put Chicago 6-4 ahead.

"He threw it right where I was looking," Konerko said. "I was thinking to get a base hit to drive in two runs and hopefully tie the game. And bang, you get it.

Konerko has had a whirlwind week. His wife gave birth to their first child on Oct. 17.

Asked to describe the feeling of hitting a grand slam in he World Series, Konerko said, "It's the second-best feeling I've had all week. The baby born Tuesday night, that's the first for the week. That one (the grand slam) is second." But Houston struck back in the top of the ninth against White Sox rookie closer Bobby Jenks.

Jeff Bagwell started the rally with a single. Chris Burke drew a one-out walk, and both runners advanced on Brad Ausmus' check-swing grounder before pinch-hitter Jose Vizcaino tied the game at 6-6 with a single to left that scored both Bagwell and Burke—who slid into home past the tag of catcher AJ Pierzynski.

The Astros briefly regained the momentum they had built before Konerko's blast, when they looked as if they were on their way to leveling the series.

Lance Berkman had driven in three runs and starter Andy Pettitte limited the White Sox to two runs and eight hits over six innings as Houston built a 4-2 lead.

The Sox launched their rally against reliever Dan Wheeler with one out in the seventh, when Juan Uribe hit his third double of the Series. With two out, Tadahito Iguchi drew a walk and Jermaine Dye came to the plate.

Wheeler hit Dye with a 3-2 pitch to load the bases, although replays appeared to show the ball struck his bat instead.

"I disagree with the call, I think the ball hit the bat," Astros manager Phil Garner said. *AFP*

Closing birdies give Glover Funai crown

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA—Lucas Glover captured his first US PGA Tour victory Sunday with birdies on the last two holes, making a 40-foot putt from the fringe and a 35-foot bunker shot on the last hole to win the Funai Classic at Disney.

Glover, who closed with a 7-under 65, was among 10 players who had a chance to win over the final four holes under threatening skies. When he went from the left rough into the front bunker on No. 18, it looked as though his best chance would be getting into a playoff.

Then came a dramatic finish.

His bunker shot exploded from the sand, high in the air, landed about 5 feet short of the cup and rolled in for birdie.

"I was trying to get it close and hope for the best," Glover said. "And then the stinker went in."

Glover finished at 23-under 265, and had to wait to make sure that held up. He was on the practice range, trying to stay loose as workers noisily tore down the grandstands behind him.

He stopped long enough to look across a strand of trees at Tom Pernice Jr., who had a 15-foot birdie putt to force a playoff. Pernice's shoulders slumped when he struck the putt, which never had a chance.

"I didn't hit a great putt," said Pernice, who closed with a 69 but made only one birdie over the last 14 holes. "What are you going to do? Lucas played a great round. My hat's off to him."

Glover, a 25-year-old American, became the third Disney winner in the last four years to make this his first US PGA Tour victory. He earned $792,000 (euro659,340) and moved to 28th on the money list, giving him a good chance at going to East Lake in two weeks for the Tour Championship.

For Pernice, it was the first time in 30 starts that he finished in the top 10. *AP*

Nadal rules Madrid Masters over Ljubicic in 5-set thriller

NADAL: 11th ATP title REUTERS

MADRID, SPAIN—RAFAEL Nadal rallied to beat Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia, 3-6, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (3), Sunday in the Madrid Masters final.

The 19-year-old Spaniard, cheered on by a boisterous crowd at Rockodromo Madrid Arena, never trailed in the decisive fifth-set tiebreaker. He got a mini break on the first point when Ljubicic netted a passing attempt.

Nadal had never before rallied from two sets down in a five-set match.

"Elsewhere in the world, it would have been impossible to defeat Ljubicic," said Nadal, who has won nine finals in a row since losing to Roger Federer in Miami in April. "Thanks to the fans, I won this final.

"Two sets behind, he was playing great. How many aces did he make ... 32. What do you think about that? I didn't even see the ball."

Nadal entered the Madrid tournament after a three-week knee injury lay-off.

Ljubicic took a 2-0 lead in the fifth set when he broke Nadal. But Ljubicic hit one of only three double-faults in the next game and Nadal, playing his first tournament in Spain since winning the French Open, eventually broke back. Both players held their serves the rest of the way.

It was Nadal's 11th ATP Tour title this year, matching top-ranked Federer's record. It was also the top-seeded Spaniard's fourth Masters title, also tying the Swiss star.

Nadal has won 79 matches this season, two more than the injured Federer. *AP*

Manila softbelles clobber Parañaque; Laguna wins

By Marc Anthony Reyes

A PERFECT START.

Host Manila stamped its class over Parañaque with a five-inning 18-1 rout at the start of girls' softball in the 1st Manila Youth Games national invitational yesterday at the PUP field.

The Big City batters unloaded eight runs in the first inning alone before adding 10 in the second highlighted by a solo home run by right fielder Jerelyn Ampusta.

The 14-year-old Jenny Pangilinan worked the first two innings before Rose Ann Llave, 15, took over the pitching chores for Manila in the 15-under competition.

Manila coach Manny Llave said he expects other clubs to get better as the competition progresses.

In the boys' 12-under baseball, Antipolo City shocked Manila, 13-3, banking on two homers by first baseman Sonny Pedraclo.

Tanauan City routed Taguig City, 14-0, in the girls' 12-under softball even as Laguna downed Palayan City, 9-7.

The ballgames started off the Games organized by the Manila Sports Council with action in taekwondo, swimming, football and track and field kicking off today.

At least 7,000 participants are competing in the event which is an extension of the yearly MYG but with the addition of different clubs from all over the country.

Presented by Globe Telecom and backed by Pagcor, San Miguel Corp., PAL, SuperFerry, Milo, Unilever, Speedo, Red Bull, Land Bank, Isuzu Manila, Intra Sports and Concept Movers, the MYG invitational features competitors from 40 cities and municipalities.

Masco chair Arnold "Ali" Atienza, son of Manila Mayor Lito, said the competition hopes to bolster the city's grassroots development program.

In cooperation with the City of Manila
7th CINEMANILA international film festival SCREENINGS OCTOBER 24

Ayala Greenbelt 1	Hidden Blade 11:30am	Sandalang Bahay 2:00pm
Amihan sa Dilinawan 4:30pm	YOUNG CINEMA NIGHT 7:00pm	Better Luck Tomorrow 9:30pm

Please call the following cinemas for details and schedules: Gotesco Cinema City 7356901 loc. 358, Isetan Cineworld 7334228, Ayala Cinema (Greenbelt 1) 7297777
Schedules are subject to change without further notice.
Email: miff@cinemanila.com.ph • Website: www.cinemanila.com.ph

GREAT DEALS OF QUALITY
AUTOWIDE
TRUCKS
BIG PRICE CUT
OCTOBER 10 TO 25, 2005
Sale Starts 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Lot 63B Innovative St., Subic Bay Industrial Park, Phase I, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
Tel. No.: (047) 252-1221 Fax No.: (047) 252-1223
www.myautowide.com info@myautowide.com

ISUZU 6W TRACTOR HEAD
ISUZU 10W ALUM WING VAN TRUCK
ISUZU ELF MANLIFT TRUCK
ISUZU ELF DUMP TRUCK GIGA TYPE

IF YOU WERE ABLE TO SELL A LOT OF THESE, JOIN THE 1st YOUNG MARKET MASTERS AWARDS

Young marketing professionals, now is your chance to sell your achievements in Mansmith and Fielders, Inc.'s 1st Young Market Masters Awards (1st YMMA). The 1st YMMA seeks to recognize and honor young achievers who excel in marketing and entrepreneurship and to inspire a new generation of innovative marketing professionals.

The 1st YMMA is open to any Filipino citizen, 35 years and younger (by the end of the year of nomination) with at least 2 full years of service with his or her company at the time of nomination.

Two categories are open for nomination. The Marketing Category is open to young achievers who may be called marketing manager, brand manager, trade marketing manager, account manager and the like.

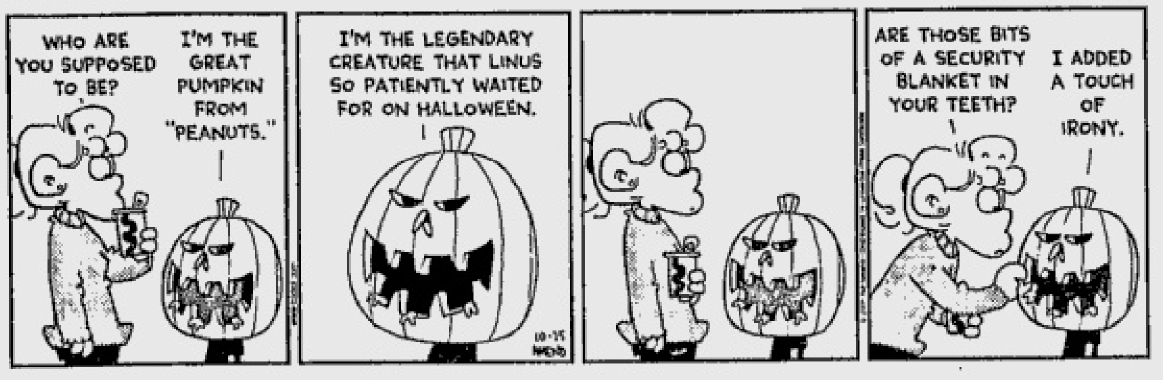
The Entrepreneur Category seeks to honor the owner or part-owner of an enterprise who are the main catalyst of the business.

Early submission of entries shall be on Oct. 28, 2005. Absolute deadline is on Nov. 25, 2005. For complete mechanics, reach us through our contact details below.

OFFICIALLY ENDORSED AND SUPPORTED BY:
Philippine Franchise Association and Philippine Retailers Association
OFFICIAL RESEARCH PARTNER: tns
OFFICIAL PRINT MEDIA PARTNER: INQUIRER
ORGANIZED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY:
MANSMITH AND FIELDERS, INC.
Telefax Nos. 722-2318/727-7142 www.mansmith.net E-mail: info@mansmith.net

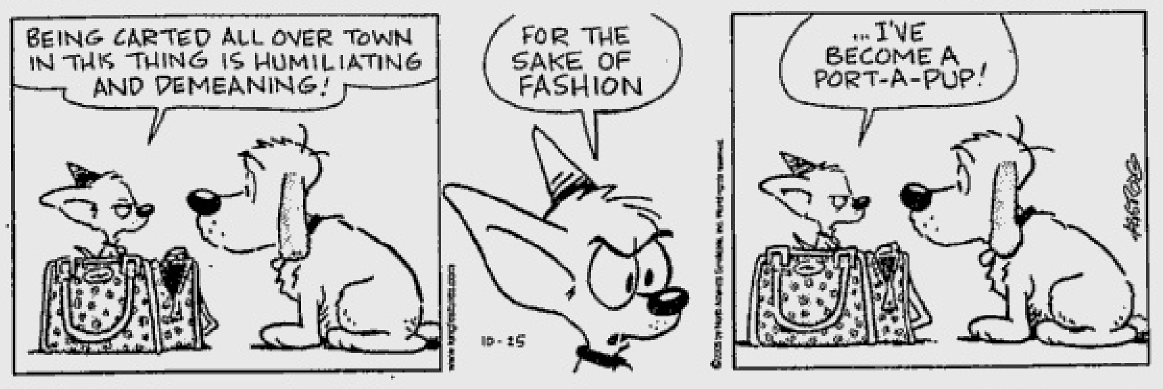
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


WHO ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?
I'M THE GREAT PUMPKIN FROM "PEANUTS."
I'M THE LEGENDARY CREATURE THAT LINUS SO PATIENTLY WAITED FOR ON HALLOWEEN.
ARE THOSE BITS OF A SECURITY BLANKET IN YOUR TEETH?
I ADDED A TOUCH OF IRONY.

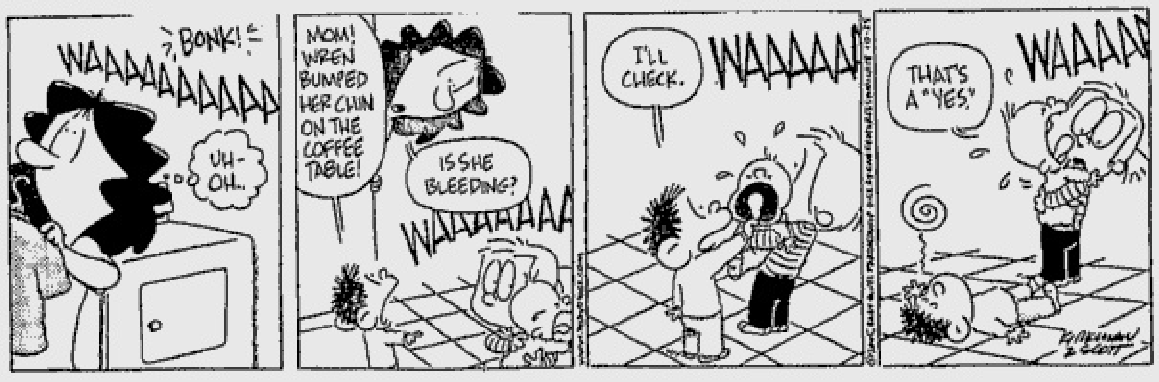
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


BEING CARTED ALL OVER TOWN IN THIS THING IS HUMILIATING AND DEMEANING!
FOR THE SAKE OF FASHION
...I'VE BECOME A PORT-A-PUP!
10-25

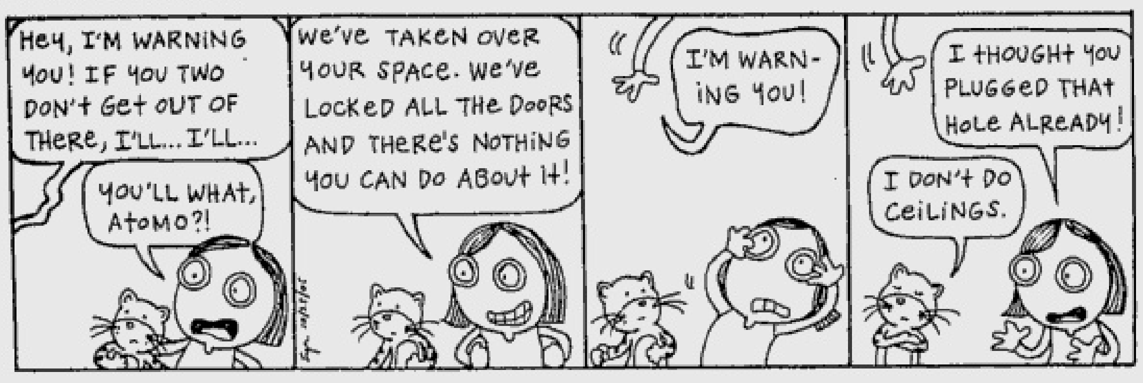
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


BONK!
WAAAAAAAAAAA
UH-OH..
MOM! WREN BUMPED HER CHIN ON THE COFFEE TABLE!
IS SHE BLEEDING?
WAAAAAAA
I'LL CHECK.
WAAAAA
THAT'S A "YES."
WAAAA

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


HEY, I'M WARNING YOU! IF YOU TWO DON'T GET OUT OF THERE, I'LL... I'LL...
YOU'LL WHAT, ATOMO?!
WE'VE TAKEN OVER YOUR SPACE. WE'VE LOCKED ALL THE DOORS AND THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT!
I'M WARNING YOU!
I THOUGHT YOU PLUGGED THAT HOLE ALREADY!
I DON'T DO CEILINGS.

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're down-to-earth in a no-nonsense, practical way. Others rely on you. You have solid values regarding home and family. Because of this, you'll have few regrets in life. The year ahead is warm and social. Relationships are important. However, you must create some solitude for yourself to focus on something dear to your heart.

Birthdate of: Pablo Picasso, artist; Helen Reddy, feminist/singer; Tracy Nelson, actress.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Be aware that you feel intensely about everything in your life right now. That's OK; it's just the way things are. A month from now, you'll be more mellow.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Without question, now and in the next few weeks your focus on partnerships and close friends is heightened. You'll learn more about what you really want (and what you don't).

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): It's easiest to work when the urge moves you. And you've got the urge right now! Roll up your sleeves and tackle whatever needs to be cleaned, organized and sorted out. (This urge lasts for four to five weeks.)

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You feel unusually playful and romantic right now. Not only are you more in touch with your creative talents, you're also sympathetic to children. This is good.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Home, family and real estate matters continue to occupy your mind and your energy. Work to make repairs at home where needed. Work to improve family relationships as well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Short trips, errands and tasks keep you busy in the month ahead. Keep a sympathetic ear open to siblings now. Someone might need your help (or vice versa).

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You're thinking more and more about new ways to earn money. You might want something on the side. You can probably pull off whatever you want, because this is a strong time for your sign.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): With both the Sun and Mercury in your sign for the next few weeks, you can really express yourself well! Go tell it on the mountain.

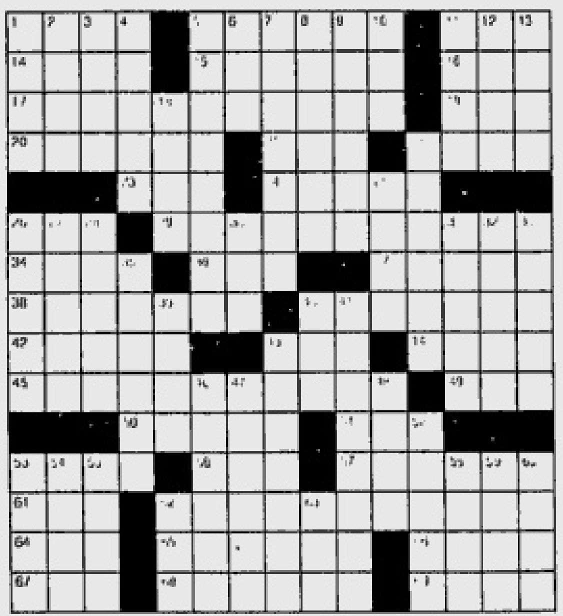
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You need rest! It's as simple as that. However, you might have to work hard now too. Therefore, work by yourself as much as possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Friends, groups, clubs and associations are playing a major role in your life now and in the immediate future. Form working units. Cooperate with others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): People notice you more than usual right now. If you're asked to accept increased responsibilities for something, do so. (You'll do fine!)

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You've got the travel bug this month. And those of you who are not traveling are focused on publishing, higher education and the media.

DAILY CROSSWORD

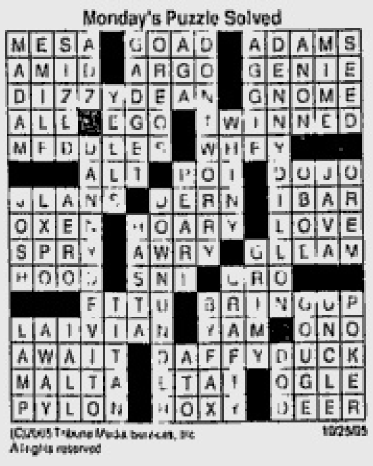


By Matthew Skoczen
Reading, PA
10/25/05

ACROSS
1 Chew like a rat
5 Writer Rostand
11 Put a spell on
14 Like a blue moon
15 Mrs. George Burns
16 Scot's cap
17 Rorschach
19 Song syllable
20 Sticky note
21 They: Fr.
22 Omar of "House"
23 Alt. spelling
24 Smooth and shiny
26 TV add-on
29 Apeman mystery?
34 Nastase of the nets
36 Chart shape
37 Helmet-shaped part
38 Breed of cat
40 Sufferings
42 Oscar recipient
43 Casual day?
44 __ City, FL
45 Zamboni zone
49 Mil. honor
50 "__ Gay"
51 Golly follower or leader?
53 Writer Murdoch
56 Light brown
57 Moors
61 Director/actor Howard
62 Blake Edwards film, with "The"
64 Make imperfect
65 __ bicarbonate
66 Chip off Eliel's block
67 Exist
68 Pix in pix
69 Silent assents

DOWN
1 Tight hold
2 One-billionth: pref.
3 Large, roomy boats
4 Home entertainment option
5 Self-indulgent sprees
6 Role for R. Gere in 2000
7 "The Dance" painter
8 Peacock "eyes"
9 Kind of hut
10 NYPD rank
11 Internet address starter
12 Legendary lawman
13 12/25
18 Actor Neeson
22 Actress Britt
25 Waffle brand
26 Travel stamps
27 Mouse sound
28 Lariat
30 You in Ulm
31 Homeric epic
32 Has to have
33 Top-40 Casey
35 Hams it up
39 Ireland
40 Jackie's O
41 Cotton fabrics
43 " and Johnny"
46 Thought
47 Secreting organs
48 Peachy follower?
52 Corroded
53 Cookbook author Rombauer
54 Leo's comment
55 Concerning
58 Van Gogh brother
59 Buffalo bunch
60 B'way postings
62 Penultimate Greek letter
63 Place

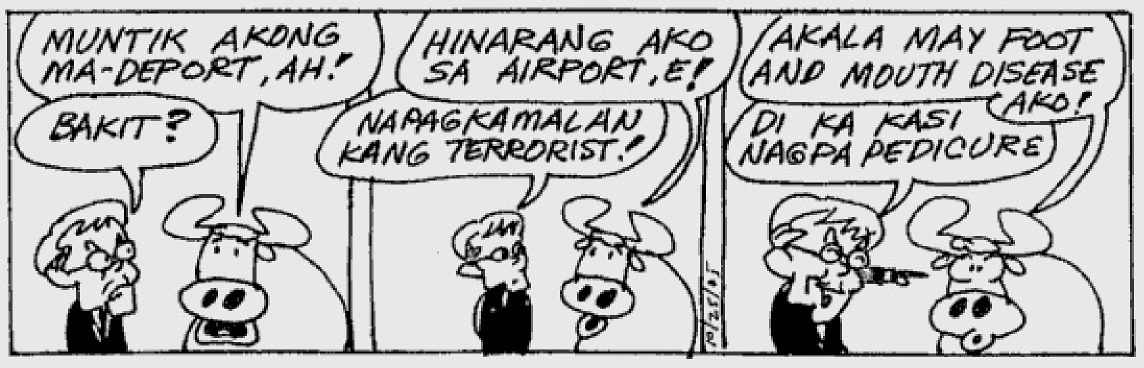
Monday's Puzzle Solved



(C)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc
All rights reserved
10/25/05

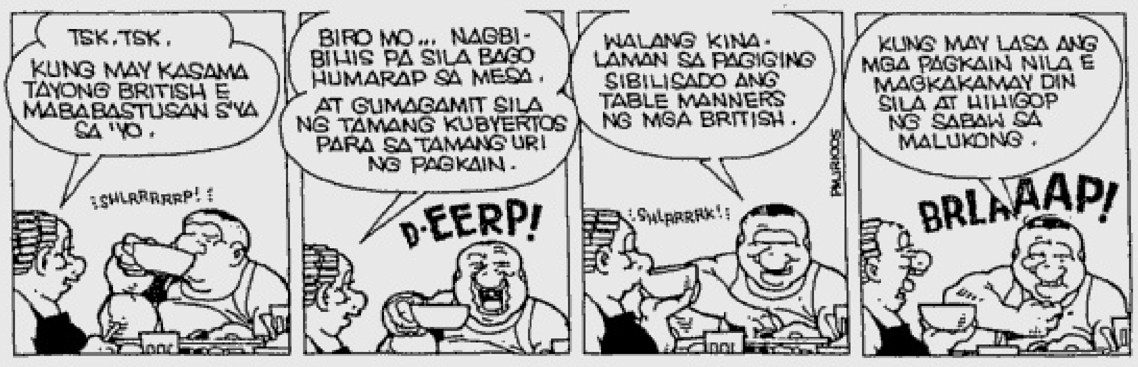
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


MUNTIK AKONG MA-DEPORT, AH!
BAKIT?
HINARANG AKO SA AIRPORT, E!
NAPAGKAMALAN KANG TERRORIST!
AKALA MAY FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE AKO!
DI KA KASI NAGPA PEDICURE

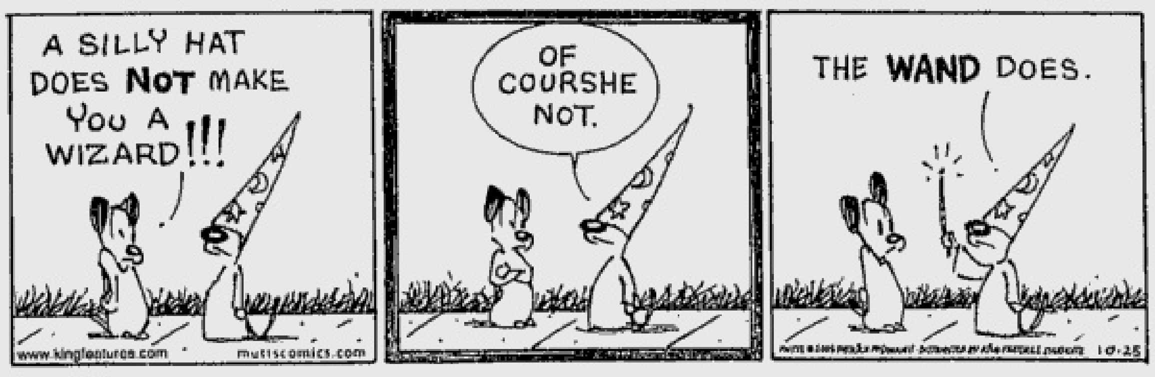
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


TSK. TSK.
KUNG MAY KASAMA TAYONG BRITISH E MABABASTUSAN S'YA SA 'YO.
SHLRRRRRP!
BIRO MO... NAGBIBIHIS PA SILA BAGO HUMARAP SA MESA.
AT GUMAGAMIT SILA NG TAMANG KUBYERTOS PARA SA TAMANG URI NG PAGKAIN.
D-EERP!
WALANG KINALAMAN SA PAGIGING SIBILISADO ANG TABLE MANNERS NG MGA BRITISH.
SHLRRRRK!
KUNG MAY LASA ANG MGA PAGKAIN NILA E MAGKAKAMAY DIN SILA AT HIHIGOP NG SABAW SA MALUKONG.
BRLAAAP!

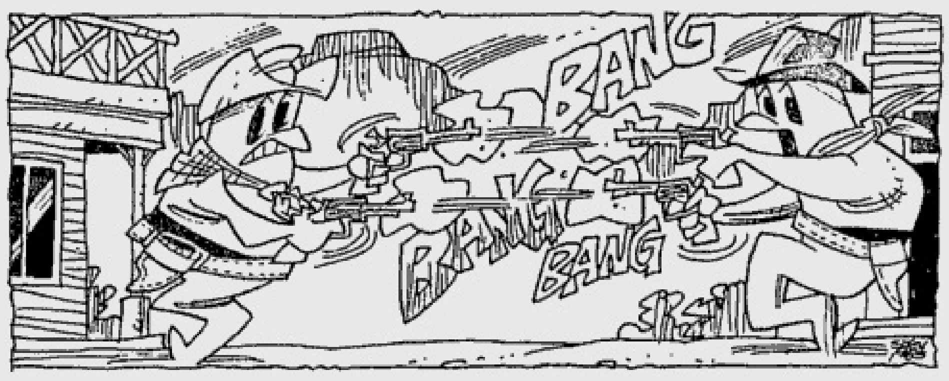
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


A SILLY HAT DOES NOT MAKE YOU A WIZARD!!!
OF COURSHE NOT.
THE WAND DOES.
www.kingfeatures.com
muttscomics.com
10-25

DIVINE COMEDY

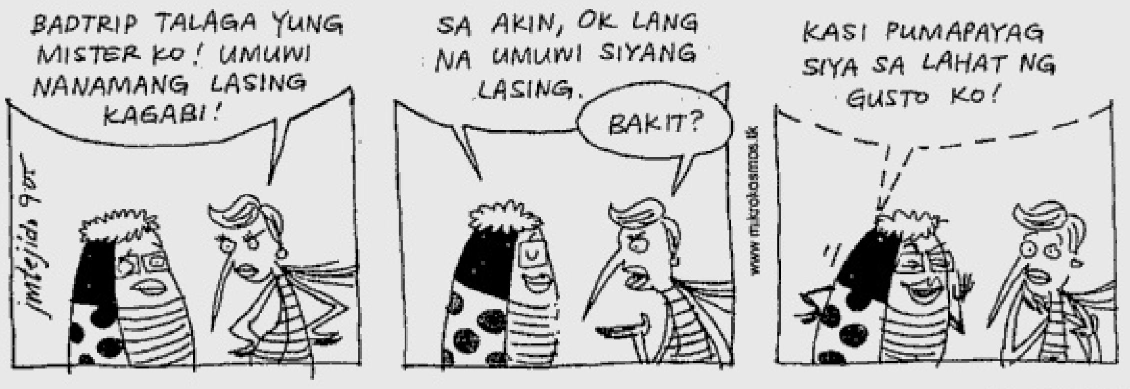
BY STEVEN PABALINAS


BANG
BANG
BANG

THE SOUL OF ROY ROGERS VERSUS THE SOUL OF CHARLES BRONSON

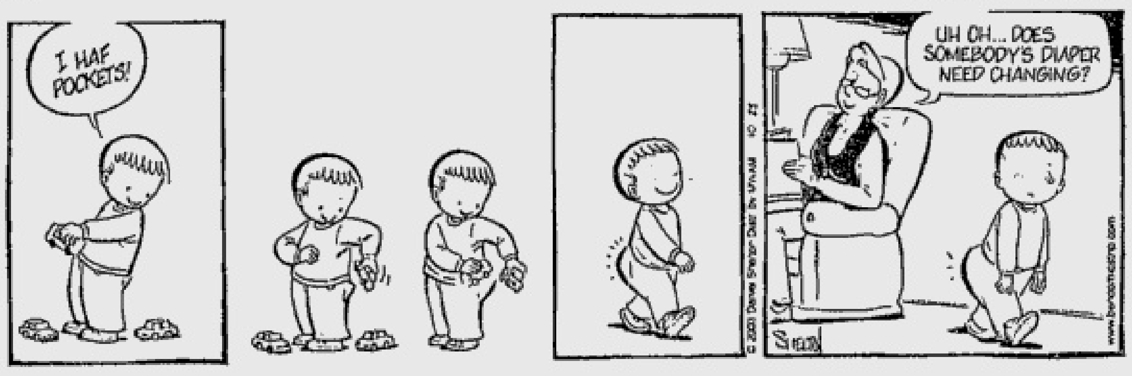
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BADTRIP TALAGA YUNG MISTER KO! UMUWI NANAMANG LASING KAGABI!
SA AKIN, OK LANG NA UMUWI SIYANG LASING.
BAKIT?
KASI PUMAPAYAG SIYA SA LAHAT NG GUSTO KO!
www.mikrokosmos.tk

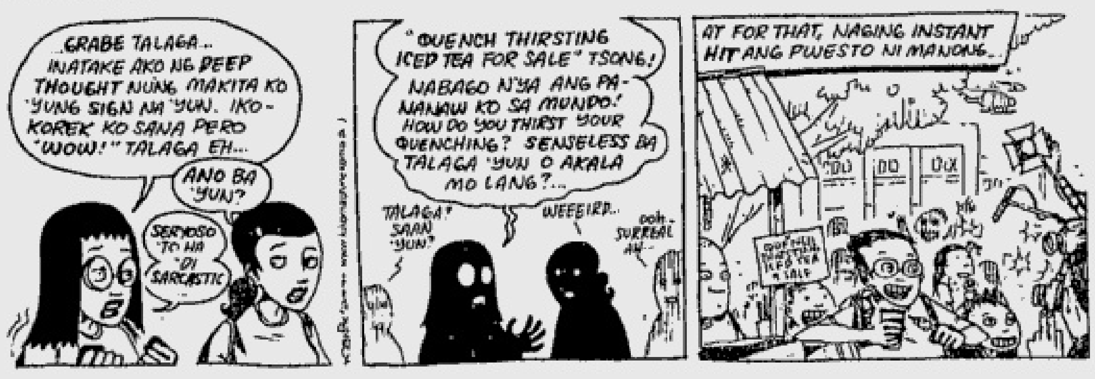
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


I HAF POCKETS!
UH OH... DOES SOMEBODY'S DIAPER NEED CHANGING?

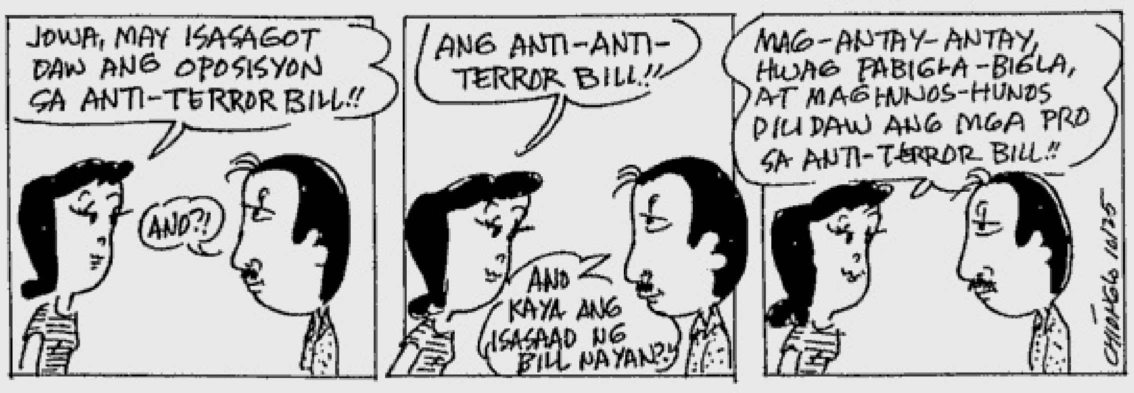
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


GRABE TALAGA... INATAKE AKO NG DEEP THOUGHT NUNG MAKITA KO 'YUNG SIGN NA 'YUN. IKO-KOREK KO SANA PERO "WOW!" TALAGA EH...
ANO BA 'YUN?
SERYOSO TO HA 'DI SARCASTIC
"QUENCH THIRSTING ICED TEA FOR SALE" TSONG! NABAGO N'YA ANG PANANAW KO SA MUNDO! HOW DO YOU THIRST YOUR QUENCHING? SENSELESS BA TALAGA 'YUN O AKALA MO LANG?...
TALAGA? SAAN 'YUN?
WEEEIRD..
ooh.. SURREAL AH..
AT FOR THAT, NAGING INSTANT HIT ANG PWESTO NI MANONG..

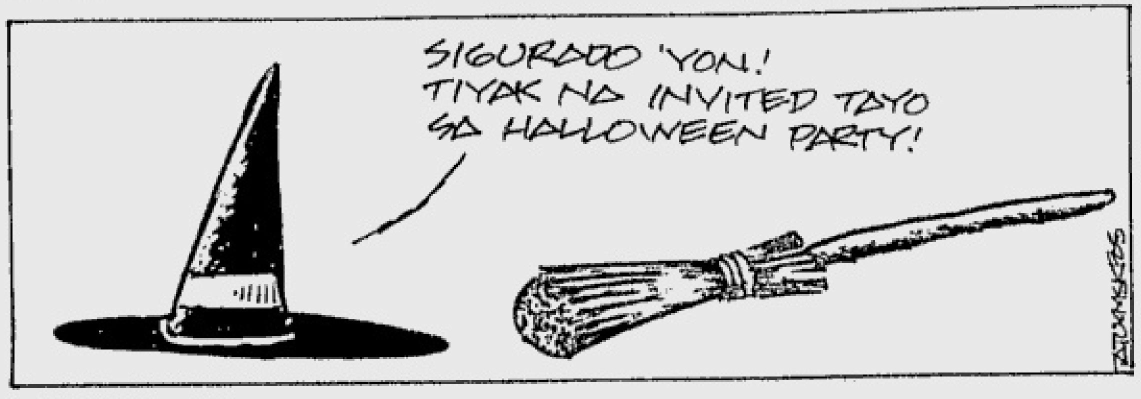
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


JOWA, MAY ISASAGOT DAW ANG OPOSISYON SA ANTI-TERROR BILL!!
ANO?!
ANG ANTI-ANTI-TERROR BILL!!
ANO KAYA ANG ISASAAD NG BILL NAYAN?!
MAG-ANTAY-ANTAY, HWAG PABIGLA-BIGLA, AT MAGHUNOS-HUNOS DILI DAW ANG MGA PRO SA ANTI-TERROR BILL!!
CHIONGLO 10/25

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


SIGURADO 'YON! TIYAK NA INVITED TAYO SA HALLOWEEN PARTY!

YLLANA with a foreign guest

Cebu movie wows Tokyo

From page A32

producer, lawyer Joji Alonso, told INQUIRER Entertainment yesterday. "We took the opportunity of inviting everyone to visit the Philippines, especially Cebu."

"Minsan Pa," an unconventional love story of a Cebuano tour guide (Yllana) and a tourist (Ara Mina), is featured in the festival's non-competition section under the Winds of Asia category. Other local films showcased under this category are Joel Lamangan's "Aishite Imasu 1941" and Cesar Montano's "Panaghoy sa Suba" (The Call of the River).

On Sunday afternoon, reporters, photographers and fans all gathered on Keyakizaka Street, the main entrance to the labyrinth complex of Roppongi Hills, to get a glimpse of and talk with the attendees, the producer said.

"Boy, was the red carpet long," Alonso said of the 200-meter-long red carpet. "It was like the Oscars *talaga*. There were three stops with the viewing public and media lined at the side of the streets. The first stop was with the TIFF logo as backdrop. The second stop was in front of a bleacher full of photographers. The third stop was at the arena where the three of us were asked to say a few words."

"Minsan Pa" was shown at 6 p.m. that day at the Bunkamura in Shibuya.

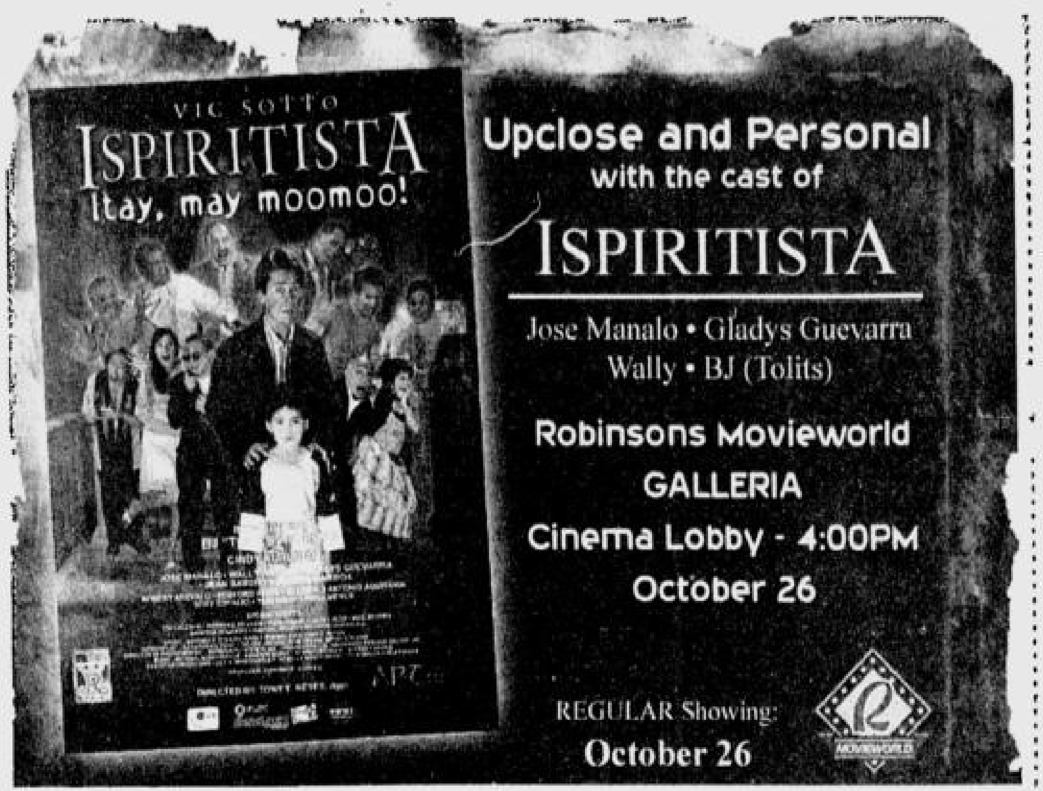
"Jeffrey rushed to the screening so he could sit at the back and observe the audience. As soon as the movie ended, the question and answer [portion] followed," Alonso said. "I thought it would just be a few questions and they'd let us go, but we stood in front of the audience for more than an hour. Our Japanese interpreter told us they must have liked the film… for them to stay on and ask a number of things."

She added: "They said (Cebu) looked magnificent on the big screen. I just hope the forthcoming digital film, 'Kubrador' (The Bet Collector), which Jeffrey and I will [collaborate] in, will also get to participate in festivals abroad."

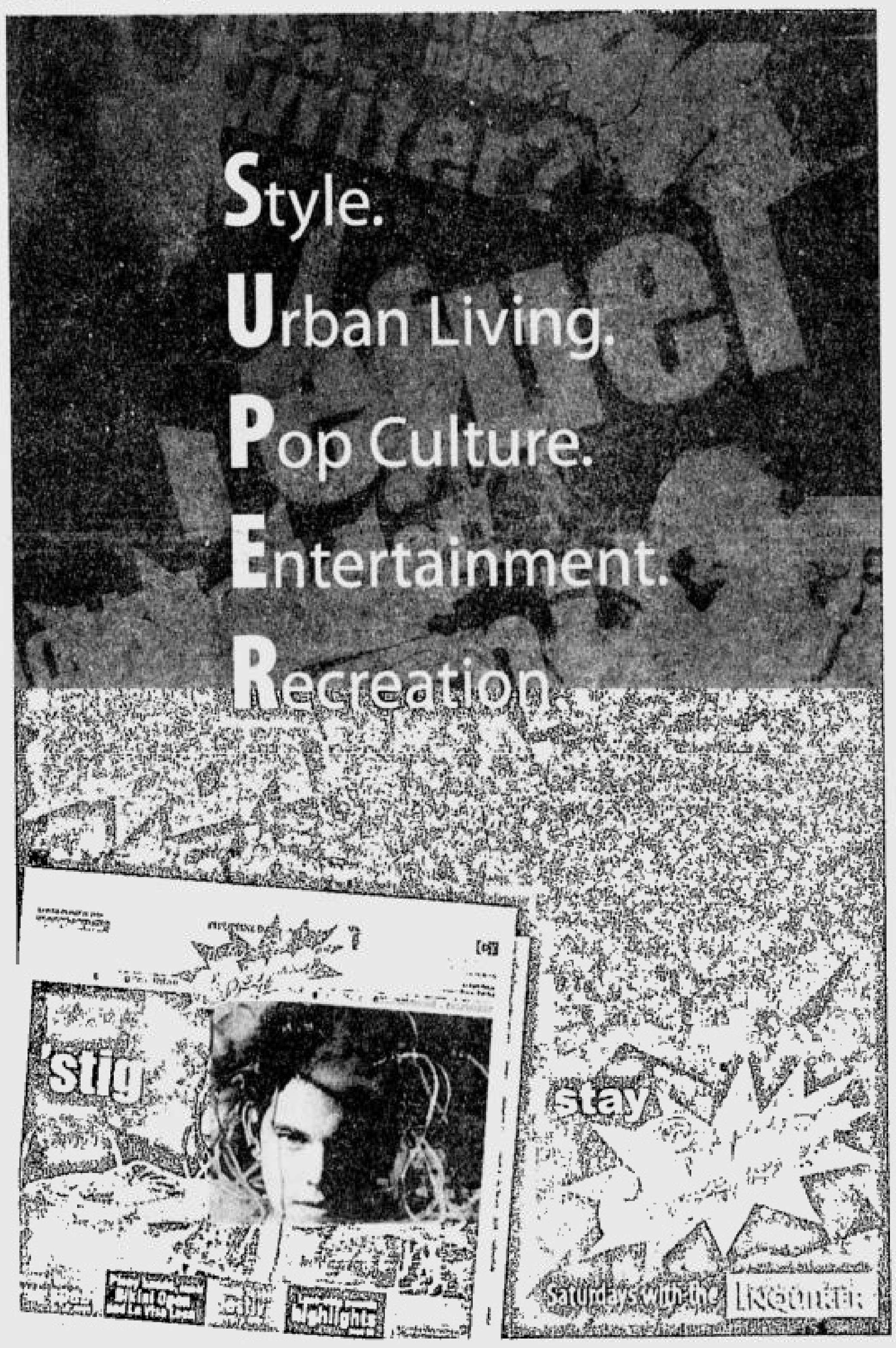
Another bit of good news: "Sigaw" director Yam Laranas sent a text message saying that the movie's musical scorer, Jessie Lucas, won the Best Musical Score Award at the 2005 Los Angeles Screamfest International Horror Film Festival.

Laranas, editor Manet Dayrit and lead actress Iza Calzado attended the awards show in Los Angeles.

3RD WEEK
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
FROM THE SPECIAL EFFECTS TEAM THAT GAVE YOU "THE LORD OF THE RINGS" COMES THE MOST VISUALLY STUNNING FANTASY EPIC OF THE YEAR!
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2
THE ELEMENTAL MIGHT


VIC SOTTO
ISPIRITISTA
Itay, may moomoo!

Upclose and Personal
with the cast of
ISPIRITISTA
Jose Manalo • Gladys Guevarra
Wally • BJ (Tolits)
Robinsons Movieworld
GALLERIA
Cinema Lobby - 4:00PM
October 26
REGULAR Showing:
October 26
MOVIEWORLD


Style.
Urban Living.
Pop Culture.
Entertainment.
Recreation.
stig
stay
Saturdays with the INQUIRER

Araneta Center Leisure Guide

CINEMA SCHEDULES

Gateway Cineplex 10
LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL
ONLY P99 ADMISSION
P120 RESERVED SEATS
GLOBE PLATINUM P249 / P299
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT 911-5555

DOOM 2:20 / 4:45 / 7:10 / 9:35
SHARKBOY & LAVA GIRL 2:00 / 4:20 / 6:40 / 9:00
MASAHISTA 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30 / 7:30 / 9:30
DEUCE BIGALOW 2 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30 / 7:30 / 9:30
CORPSE BRIDE 1:10 / 3.00 / 4.50 / 6:40 / 8:30

GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
DOOM 1:45 / 4:10 / 6:35 / 9:00
LORD OF WAR 1:30 / 4:10 / 6:50 / 9:30
WALLACE & GROMIT 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 / 8:40
DUBAI 1:40 / 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:10
THE 40 YR OLD VIRGIN 1:00 / 3:40 / 6:20 / 9:20

ALI MALL CINEMAS

① DUBAI 12:30 / 3:00 / 5:30 / 8:00
② DOOM 12:50 / 3:15 / 5:40 / 8:05
③ SHARKBOY & LAVA GIRL 12:50 / 3:10 / 5:30 / 7:50
④ LORD OF WAR 12:10 / 2:50 / 5:30 / 8:10
⑤ DEUCE BIGALOW 2 12:30 / 2:30 / 4:30 / 6:30 / 8:30

DOLBY DIGITAL DTS SDDS

ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS

Oct 26 Wed | COCA COLA vs PUREFOODS 4:40 pm
GINEBRA vs TALK N TEXT 7:25 pm
GARY LEWIS AND THE PLAYBOYS LIVE October 28, Friday 8 pm

LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
6th floor Shangri-la Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171

1 (DOLBY) THE ADVENTURES OF SHARKBOY & LAVAGIRL GP
2 (DOLBY) DOOM R13
3 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW 2 R13
4 (DOLBY) 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN R13

PREMIERE
(DOLBY) WALLACE & GROMIT GP

CINEMA 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

1 DOOM
2 WALLACE & GROMIT
3 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
4 DEUCE BIGALOW-2

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150

1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 MASAHISTA
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) DOOM
5 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 5433994

1 DUBAI
2 MASAHISTA
3 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
4 DOOM
5 (DOLBY) RESERVED
6 RESERVED

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(LAS PINAS) tel. 8735004

1 (DOLBY) PLEASE CALL
2

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DTS) DOOM
2 (SDDS) LORD OF WAR
3 (DTS) WALLACE & GROMIT
4 GOLD (DTS) 40 YEARS OLD VIRGIN
5 GOLD (DOLBY) DOOM
6 GOLD (SDDS) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
7 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
8 DUBAI
9 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
10 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE

Blue Wave
MARQUINTON
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927

1 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 (DOLBY) DOOM
3 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
4 (DOLBY) DUBAI

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 7334228

1 (DOLBY) DOOM
2 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
3 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
4 CINE MANILA FILM FESTIVAL
5 INTO THE BLUE

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 INTO THE BLUE
2 KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
3 RED EYE
4 RESERVED

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290, 833.3274

1 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
2 DOOM
3 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue
(Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)

1 SOUND OF THUNDER
2 DEUCE BIGALOW-2

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX) PERFECT CATCH
2 DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3 (DTS EX) LORD OF WAR
4 THE BROTHERS GRIMM

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1 HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) LORD OF WAR
4 (DTS) PERFECT CATCH

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

1 HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4 (DTS) BLADE OF THE ROSE

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 RED EYE
2 THE CAVE

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72

1 (DOLBY) DOOM
2 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
4 (DOLBY) 40-YEAR OLD VIRGIN

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 DUBAI
2 (DTS) LAND OF THE DEAD
3 (DOLBY) INTO THE BLUE
4 DEUCE BIGALOW-2

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(BINAN) tel. (049) 4111146

1 DUBAI
2 (DOLBY) INTO THE BLUE
3 (DTS) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4 LAND OF THE DEAD

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 DUBAI
3 (DOLBY) LAND OF THE DEAD

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1 THE BROTHERS GRIMM
2 DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3 (DOLBY) DUBAI
4 (DTS) INTO THE BLUE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320

1 DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 PERFECT CATCH
3 (DOLBY) DUBAI

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS) MEDALLION
2 ANG GUSTO KO SA LALAKE
3 MASAHISTA
4 (DTS) DISKARTE

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) BLADE OF THE ROSE
2 LIGAYA
3 (DTS) INTO THE BLUE
4 DUBAI
5 LAND OF THE DEAD

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 LORD OF WAR
2 THE TRANSPORTER-2
3 SOUND OF THUNDER
4 DUBAI

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1 NAGDADALAGA
2 SOUND OF THUNDER

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

CALL NOW* 833-9999
NOW SHOWING at SM CINEMA
movietime SCHEDULE AND EVENTS

FILM FESTIVAL
Cebu
SPANISH FILM
Oct. 28-30
Cinema 2

Manila & San Lazaro
CINEMANILA
Oct. 12-25
Cinema 5,7,8,12

RED CARPET PREMIERE
Megamall
THE GHOST INSIDE
October 27, 2005
Cinema 6

Megamall
WAITING
October 28, 2005
Cinema 3

BARBIE XU
The Ghost Inside

FILM FESTIVAL
CINEMANILA
7th International Film Festival
October 12-25, 2005

INTERNATIONAL FILM ENTRIES
(Norway) by Hans Peter Moland
(France) by Olivier Assayas
(Finland) by Aku Louhimies
(Morocco) by Mohamed Asli
(Senegal) by Ousmane Sembene
(Poland) by Krzysztof Krauze
(Argentina) by Eduardo Pinto
(Philippines) by Cesar Montano
(Indonesia) by Ravi Bharwani
(Belgium) by Jean Pierre and Luc Dardenne
(Belgium) by Hilde Van Mieghem
(Korea) by Sang-soo Im

SM City Manila
Cinema 7-12 • Tel no. 523-9240
SM City San Lazaro
Cinema 4-6 • Tel no. 786-2488

GUARANTEED SEATS

THE PODIUM 633-8976
1 THE ADVENTURE OF SHARKBOY & LAVA GIRL
02:00FS/02:25MF/04:35/06:45
08:25LFS/09:00LMF/10:40END
2 DOOM
02:00FS/02:25MF/04:35/06:45
08:30LFS/09:00LMF/10:45END

MEGAMALL
1 DOOM
11:00FS/11:10MF/01:20/03:30/05:40/07:50
09:35LFS/10:00LMF/11:45END

CEBU (032) 231-3876
1 THE LORD OF WAR
12:00FS/12:18MF/02:36/04:54/07:12
09:12LFS/09:30LMF/11:30END
2 DOOM
12:00FS/12:10MF/02:02/03:54/05:46/07:38
09:23LFS/09:30LMF/11:10END
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
12:00FS/12:20MF/02:10/04:00/05:50/07:40
09:05LFS/09:30LMF/10:55END

METRO MANILA

SM MEGAMALL
1 DOOM
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
5 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
6 LORD OF WAR
7 DUBAI
8 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
9 WALLACE AND GROMIT
10 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
11 TRANSPORTER 2
12 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

SM CITY STA. MESA
1 DOOM
2 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
5 DUBAI
6 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
7 INTO THE BLUE
8 LAND OF THE DEAD
9 LORD OF WAR
10 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN

SM CITY BICUTAN
1 DOOM
2 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 LORD OF WAR
4 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
1 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 LORD OF WAR
5 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
6 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
7 DOOM
8 DUBAI
9 DEUCE BIGALOW
10 DARK WATER
11 BLADE OF THE ROSE
12 TRANSPORTER 2

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
1 DOOM
2 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
3 DUBAI
4 LORD OF WAR
5 DEUCE BIGALOW
6 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
7 SABLAY KA NA PASAWAY KA PA
8 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
9 TRANSPORTER 2
10 INTO THE BLUE

SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT
1 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
2 DOOM
3 DUBAI
4 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
1 DOOM
2 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
5 INTO THE BLUE
6 DUBAI
7 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
8 LORD OF WAR

SM CITY MANILA
1 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
2 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
3 LORD OF WAR
4 DEUCE BIGALOW
5 WALLACE AND GROMIT
6 DOOM
7 DUBAI
8 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
9 LAND OF THE DEAD
10 SABLAY KA NA PASAWAY KA PA
11 INTO THE BLUE
12 BROTHERS GRIMM

SM CINEMA SAN LAZARO
1 DOOM
2 DEUCE BIGALOW
3 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
5 LORD OF WAR
6 DUBAI

CENTER Stage EVENT CALENDAR

CONCERT
NORTH EDSA
BAMBOO
November 11, 2005
Cinema 1

NORTH EDSA
KYLA
November 19, 2005
Cinema 1

MEGAMALL
SOUTH BORDER
November 26, 2005
Cinema 3

MEGAMALL
KITCHIE & BARBIE
December 2, 2005
Cinema 3

NORTH EDSA
KITCHIE & BARBIE
December 9, 2005
Cinema 1

MEGAMALL
MARTIN NIEVERA
December 9 & 10, 2005
Cinema 3 & 4

MEGAMALL
JOSEMARIE CHAN
December 10, 2005
Cinema 3

LUZON

SM CITY PAMPANGA
1 LORD OF WAR
2 WALLACE & GROMIT
3 PERFECT CATCH
4 DEUCE BIGALOW
5 SABLAY KA NA PASAWAY KA PA
6 DUBAI

SM CITY BAGUIO
1 DUKES OF HAZZARD
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DUBAI
4 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY BACOOR
1 INTO THE BLUE
2 DEUCE BIGALOW
3 DOOM
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
5 DUBAI
6 LORD OF WAR
7 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
8 ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL

SM CITY MARILAO
1 PERFECT CATCH
2 ONE MISSED CALL 2
3 DUBAI
4 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY DASMARIÑAS
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 DUBAI
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 DOOM

SM CITY LUCENA
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 DUBAI
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 BROTHERS GRIMM

SM CITY BATANGAS
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 PERFECT MAN
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 DUBAI

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

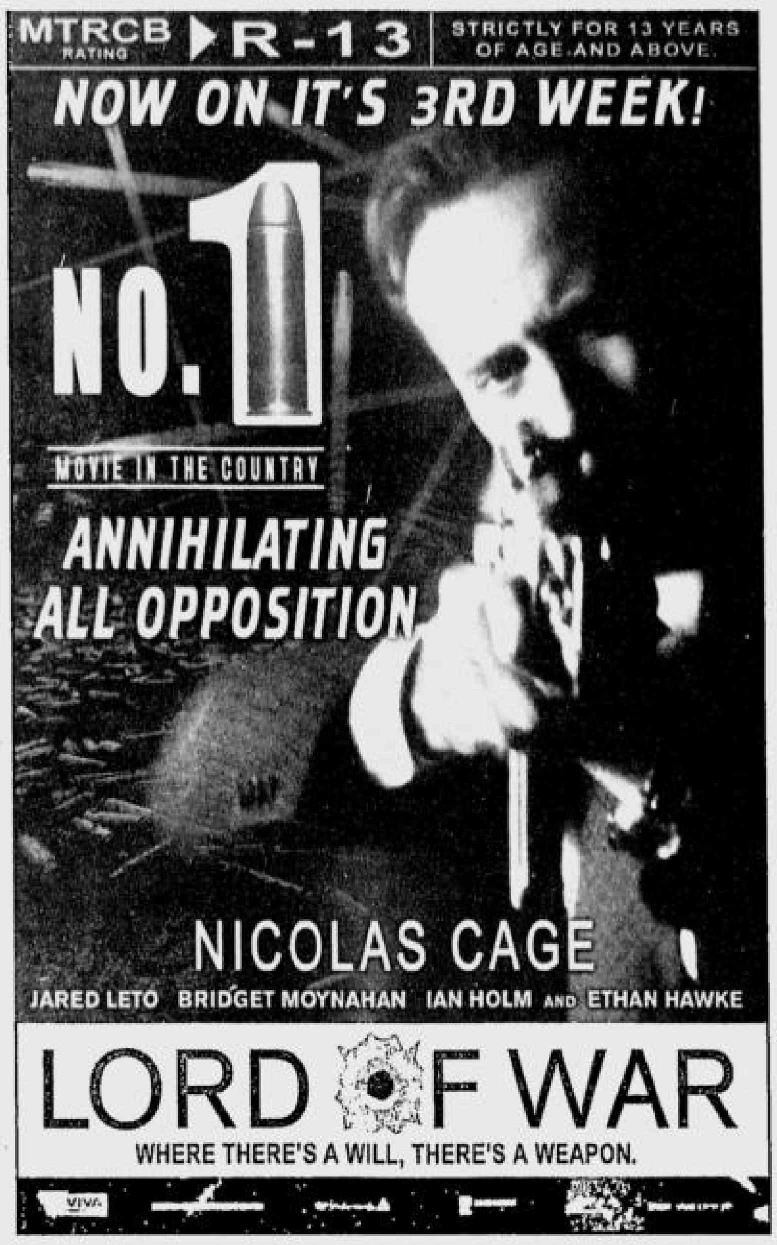
SM CITY CEBU
1 LORD OF WAR
2 DOOM
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 PERFECT CATCH
5 BLADE OF ROSE
6 ONE MISSED CALL 2
7 DUBAI
8 CONSTANT GARDENER

SM CITY ILOILO
1 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
2 RESERVED
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 DEUCE BIGALOW
6 INTO THE BLUE
7 RESERVED
8 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

SM CITY DAVAO
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
3 DUBAI
4 LORD OF WAR
5 DEUCE BIGALOW
6 PERFECT MAN

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 LONG WEEKEND
3 DUBAI
4 TRANSPORTER 2

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA


MTRCB RATING R-13
STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND ABOVE.
NOW ON IT'S 3RD WEEK!
NO. 1
MOVIE IN THE COUNTRY
ANNIHILATING ALL OPPOSITION
NICOLAS CAGE
JARED LETO BRIDGET MOYNAHAN IAN HOLM AND ETHAN HAWKE
LORD OF WAR
WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WEAPON.
VIVA

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 R13 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
CINEMA 2 LORD OF WAR PG13 11:10, 1:35, 4:00, 6:25, 8:50
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PROMENADE
GREENHILLS
...a dinotertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 WALLACE & GROMIT - GP 10:45, 12:55, 3:05, 5:15 DOOM - R13 7:10, 9:50 - R13
CINEMA 4 ADVENTURES of SHARKBOY & LAVAGIRL - GP 10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10
CINEMA 5 DOOM R13 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM
October 28 PENIS TALKS 2 : All About Men 9PM
October 27, 2005 TARA TAMBUNTING CONCERT 8PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 THE ADVENTURES OF SHARKBOY & LAVAGIRL MTRCB GP 12 40, 3 00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
2 DOOM MTRCB R-13 11 40, 2.15, 4.50, 7:25, 10:00
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 MTRCB R-13 12.40, 3 00, 5 20, 7:40, 10 00
4 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN MTRCB R-13 2.00, 4 40, 7 20, 10 00
PREMIERE THEATRE WALLACE & GROMIT
MTRCB GP 12:40, 3 00, 5.20, 7.40, 10:00
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice
Catch the Cineplex Special
Get your tickets to
"THE LEGEND OF ZORRO"
in advance starting October 19, 2005
Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P150
Premiere Theatre - P295 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)
Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 / 633-4736 for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
1 DOOM 12:50, 3:25, 6:00, 8:35, 11:05 R-13
2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 R-13
3 SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL 11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 R-13
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00 R-13

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City
☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
WALLACE AND GROMIT GP 12:30,2:30,4:30,6:30,8:30
ADVENTURE OF SHARK BOY AND LAVA GIRL GP 1:25,3:35,5:45,8:00
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO R13 12:00,2:00,4:00, 6:00,8:00,10:00
THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN R13 12:00,2:25,4:50,7:15,9:40
LORD OF WAR R13 12:15,2.45,5:15,7:45
DOOM R13 1:45,3 55,6:05, 8:15,10:25

Tinkering my rosary and other boob-tube booboos

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

HOST: ARE YOU HAPPY ABOUT THE TURNOUT of visitors at your new festival?

Guest: Of course, it will help the country. This is good, because promote for tourism *ito, hindi ba?*

(Promote for tourism—*ano yon?*)

* * *

Host: Why did you prepare this particular dish for our show today?

Guest: Because it's very democratic—it's appeal to a wide range of tastes!

(Ah, so...)

* * *

Host: What do you have to say about the story of heroism we've just heard?

Guest: It's only proper. After all, what better way of giving up your life for your friend than to die for your friend?

(—What, indeed!)

* * *

Host: *Ikaw naman, ano ang* talent *mo?*

Contestant: *Puwede pong bumati?*

(Oo na—diyan ka naman magaling!)

* * *

Host: What did you do to boost your spirits when your plane was about to crash?

Guest: Over and over, I was tinkering my rosary!

(Ano daw?)

* * *

Host: Tell our viewers about the good benefits of your new product.

Guest: If you use our new product, I assure you, you will be flatter!

(We're flat enough, thank you!)

* * *

Host: Why did you resign from the office you were running?

Guest: I did not get the support I needed from the government. *Hindi binibigay* consistency *ang pondo na kailangan* for our important projects!

(*Ay*, consistency...)

* * *

Hosts: What's the weather picture like for tomorrow? Where's the typhoon expected to be?

Guest: Well, not so bad, it's going to away. So there will be less areas in the country infected by the typhoon.

(Infected, affected? Typhoon, typhoid?—*What?*)

* * *

Host: What about the flood? Is it still high?

Co-host: Let's take a look at our remote camera's picture at the flood scene. *Ang nakikita niyo ngayon sa inyong TV ay mga nakatirik na* video *sa baha.*

(*Nakatirik na* video? What *dat?*)

* * *

Host: Did you hear about the new hurricane in the States and the damage it's causing?

Co-host: Sorry, I had no inking whatsoever.

(—We also!)

* * *

Host: Do you think there will be another coup?

Guest: No more, please! That's all we need—my worst is nightmare!

(What in the world are you saying?)

Winston in Concert

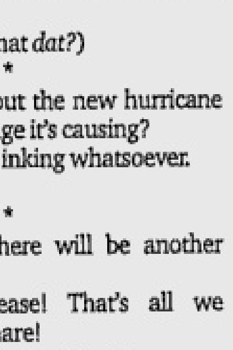
WATCH out for Winston in Concert events on Oct. 28 at Ratsky, Tomas Morato, with Imago performing.

Hallmark Channel scores

PRODUCTIONS on the Hallmark Channel won two trophies at the 57th Emmy Awards—"A Christmas Carol, The Musical" was cited for outstanding music direction, and "Frankenstein" was honored for outstanding makeup.

Viewers can look forward to catching these Emmy Award nominees and winners on Hallmark: Oct. 29 at 9 p.m., "Mitch Albom's Five People You Meet in Heaven." Nov. 14 at 9 p.m., "Farscape: The Peacekeeper War—Part 1." Nov. 15 at 9 p.m., "Peacekeeper War—Part 2" Nov. 26 at 10:35 p.m., "Frankenstein—Part 1 and 2." Dec. 25 at 9 p.m., "A Christmas Carol, The Musical." Jan. 1, 2006 at 9 p.m., "Hercules—Part 1 and 2."

Madonna docu premieres in NY



MADONNA AP

NEW YORK — WHEN Madonna's new documentary, "I'm Going to Tell You A Secret," premiered on MTV last Friday, she was nervous the audience wouldn't like it. The documentary is a behind-the-scenes look at the material girl's "Re-Invention Tour." It follows the pop icon all the way from dancer auditions to rehearsals, a visit to Israel and the final show.

Madonna was worried that her secret wasn't juicy enough. "When I got to the end of it (the screening)... I could feel that people enjoyed it," she told ABC News Radio.

Madonna returns to why fans love her in the first place—with her gift album, "Confessions on a Dance Floor," to be released Nov. 15, made entirely of '80s-style dance tracks. *AP*

AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • Greenbelt

ALABANG TOWN

AYALA CENTER CEBU

AYALA MALLS
LoveMall!

AYALA MALLS
Electronic Gift Certificate
So you won't hear them say you never get them the right size, style or color.

1 card = 100 stores
The gift card you love to give & get.

Available at the Discount Plus booth.
Call 752-7324 to 25
www.ayalamalls.com.ph

AYALA CENTER
LoveMall!

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
German Festival October 21 to 24	Pony Ride Promo October 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 Blims / Automatic Center Exhibit October 17 to 28	Jobstreet.com Job Fair October 25

AYALA GREENBELT

Manila, My Manila Photo Exhibit featuring the Finalists' Entries
September 30 to October 30 - GB 3 Ground Floor Lobby.
GB 3 Ground Floor Lobby & Casa Armas Restaurant

GREENBELT Onstage

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents
THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES
at REP's GLOBE THEATER
October 23, 26, 27, 29, 30
For inquiries, please call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM

Registration for Art Workshops now on-going at Ayala Museum
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29.
Online registration at www.ayalamuseum.org

AYALA CINEMAS

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

THX CERTIFIED CINEMA

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

G1 GLORIETTA 1
1 ADVENTURES OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
2 DOOM
3 DUBAI
4 MASAHISTA

G4 GLORIETTA 4
1 ADVENTURES OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
2 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO
3 THX THE 40 YEAR-OLD-VIRGIN 12 50, 3 15, 5 40, 8 05, 10 30 GUARANTEED SEATS
4 LUTHER
5 WALLACE & GROMIT/ INTO THE BLUE
6 DOOM
7 LORD OF WAR

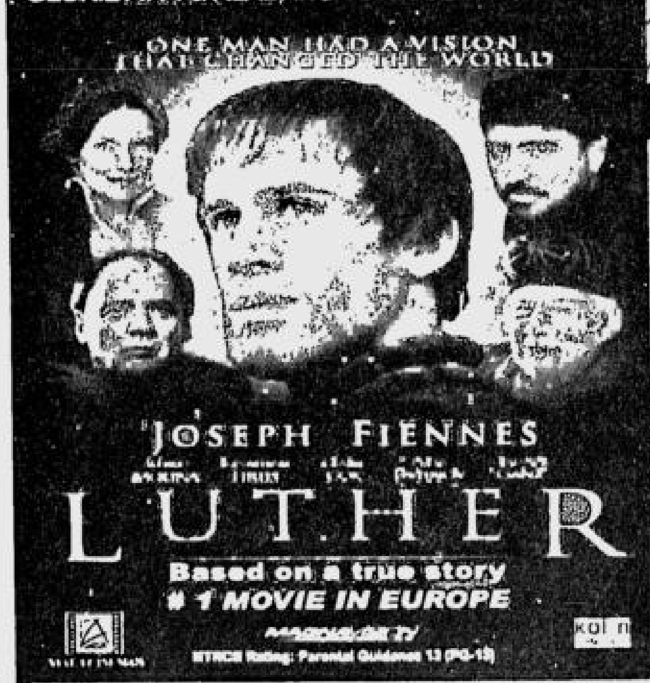
GB1 GREENBELT 1
1 DOOM 1:05, 3 15, 5 25, 7:35, 9:45
2 CINEMANILA For more details call, 750-4180 TO 81

GB3 GREENBELT 3
1 THX THE 40 YEAR-OLD-VIRGIN 1 50, 4 15, 6 40, 9 05, 11 30 GUARANTEED SEATS
2 THX DOOM 2:20, 4 30, 6 40, 8 50, 11 00 GUARANTEED SEATS
3 ADVENTURES OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL 2 20, 4 35, 6 50, 9 05, 11 20 GUARANTEED SEATS
4 LORD OF WAR 1 30, 4 00, 6 30, 9 00, 11 30 GUARANTEED SEATS
5 DEUCE BIGALOW 1 00, 3 00, 5 00, 7 00, 9 00, 11 00 GUARANTEED SEATS

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 THX DOOM
2 THE 40 YEAR-OLD-VIRGIN
3 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO
4 ADVENTURES OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
5 LORD OF WAR

ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
1 DOOM
2 TRANSPORTER 2
3 THE CONSTANT GARDENER
4 ONE MISSED CALL 2

NOW SHOWING EXCLUSIVELY AT GLORIETTA 4 & ALABANG TOWN CENTER CINEMAS


ONE MAN HAD A VISION THAT CHANGED THE WORLD
JOSEPH FIENNES
LUTHER
Based on a true story
# 1 MOVIE IN EUROPE
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13 (PG-13)

7th CINEMANILA international film festival SCREENINGS OCT. 22-25

	11 30	2 00	4 30	7:00	9:30
Oct 22				Clean	President's Last Bang
Oct 23		President's Last Bang	Neighbor no. 13	Ab-normal Beauty	Tae Guk Gi
Oct 24	Hidden Blade	Sandalang Bahay	Anihan sa Dilinawan	Young Cinema Night	Better Luck Tomorrow
Oct 25	Bow Barracks Forever	President's Last Bang	Ab-normal Beauty	One Nite in Mongkok	Last Life in the Universe

Ayala Cinema (Greenbelt 1) 750-4180 to 82
Schedules are subject to change without further notice.

Email: miff@cinemanila.com.ph • Website: www.cinemanila.com.ph

Customer Service text hotline:	0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline:	Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm Greenbelt - 757 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center -	842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu -	(032) 231 5342 loc 324

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!
The fun is in the finds
Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Customer Service Hotline: 886-7515

Free Seating Cinemas: P80.00

① DOOM
② THE ADVENTURES OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL
③ MASAHISTA
④ LORD OF WAR
⑤ DUBAI

EVENTS! EVENTS!

FRESH BOUNTY at MARKET! MARKET!
A Fruits, Flowers & Vegetables Festival
October 15 to 30, 2005

Oct. 15 & 16, 11am - 2pm, Central Plaza
FOOD FEST
FIREWORKS DISPLAY (Oct. 15)

Oct. 22, 11am - 2pm, Central Plaza
ZEN FOUNTAIN MAKING DEMO & WORKSHOP
FLORAL ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP

Oct. 29, 11am - 2pm, Central Plaza
SOUTH BEACH DIET ON A BUDGET
SCULPTURED TREATS

Oct. 30, Central Plaza
CULINARY MEET

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9116

1 TRANSPORTER 2 • THX
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

2 THE ADVENTURE OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

3 LORD OF WAR
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

4 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

5 MASAHISTA
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

6 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
12:00 2:25 5:05 7:45 10 00

7 WALLACE AND GROMIT
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

8 DOOM
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

9 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

10 INTO THE BLUE
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 DOOM
10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50

2 MASAHISTA
12:10 2:10 4:10 6:10 8:10 10:00

3 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

4 LORD OF WAR
10:10 12:25 2:45 5:05 7:25 10:00

5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
10:30 12:15 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 9:50

6 ILUSYON 11:00 1:10 3:20
MATTHEW, MARK , LUKE AND JOHN
5:50 7:50 9:50

7 THE ADVENTURES OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL
10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 LORD OF WAR
12:50 3:35 6:20 9:05

2 DOOM
11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

3 THE ADVENTURE OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL
11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

4 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

5 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
12:10 2:30 4:50 7:10 9:20

6 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
12:20 2:30 4:40 6:50 9:00

7 WALLACE AND GROMIT
1:40 3:30 5:20 7:10 9:00

8 MASAHISTA
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

NOVALICHES 935-3231 / 935-3229-30

1 LORD OF WAR
2 WILD SIDE
3 THE ADVENTURE OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL
4 MASAHISTA
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
5 DOOM

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 LORD OF WAR
2 MASAHISTA
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 THE ADVENTURE OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL
2 DOOM
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 LORD OF WAR

CHECK THIS OUT ▸▸

Robinsons Movieworld exclusive

MASAHISTA
(The Masseur)
Introducing: Coco Martin
- October 19 to 25 -
galleria • ermita • metro east • novaliches malabon • imus • dasmariñas •
MTRCB Rating: R18 (without cuts!)

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907

1 INTO THE BLUE
2 DEUCE BIGALOW
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 LORD OF WAR
5 BLADE OF THE ROSE

LIPA (043) 757-3684 (043) 312-5870

1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 BLADE OF THE ROSE
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 A SOUND OF THUNDER

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2126 (046) 416-4332

1 DOOM
2 TRANSPORTER 2
3 MASAHISTA
4 LORD OF WAR

ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 THE BROTHERS GRIMM
2 PERFECT CATCH
3 UNDISCOVERED
4 LORD OF WAR

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 LORD OF WAR
2 THE ADVENTURE OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 MASAHISTA
5 DOOM

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-6270

1 PERFECT CATCH
2 MASAHISTA
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 UNDISCOVERED
5 WALLACE AND GROMIT
6 LORD OF WAR

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459

1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 THE DESCENT
3 LORD OF WAR
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
6 UNDISCOVERED

ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 INTO THE BLUE
2 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 DEUCE BIGALOW 2

MOVIE PASS
MOVIE PASS

The Perfect Gift All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.
Get Special discounts for volume purchases!
For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

ENTERTAINMENT
E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Emmie G. Velarde
Text us your feedback: Inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Cebu movie wows Tokyo

By Marinel R. Cruz

JOMARI YLLANA AND JEFFREY JETURIAN, lead actor and director of the movie "Minsan Pa" (One Moment More), were the country's representatives to the 18th Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF).

The film fest kicked off on Saturday with a lavish red carpet ceremony at the Roppongi Hills in Tokyo, Japan.

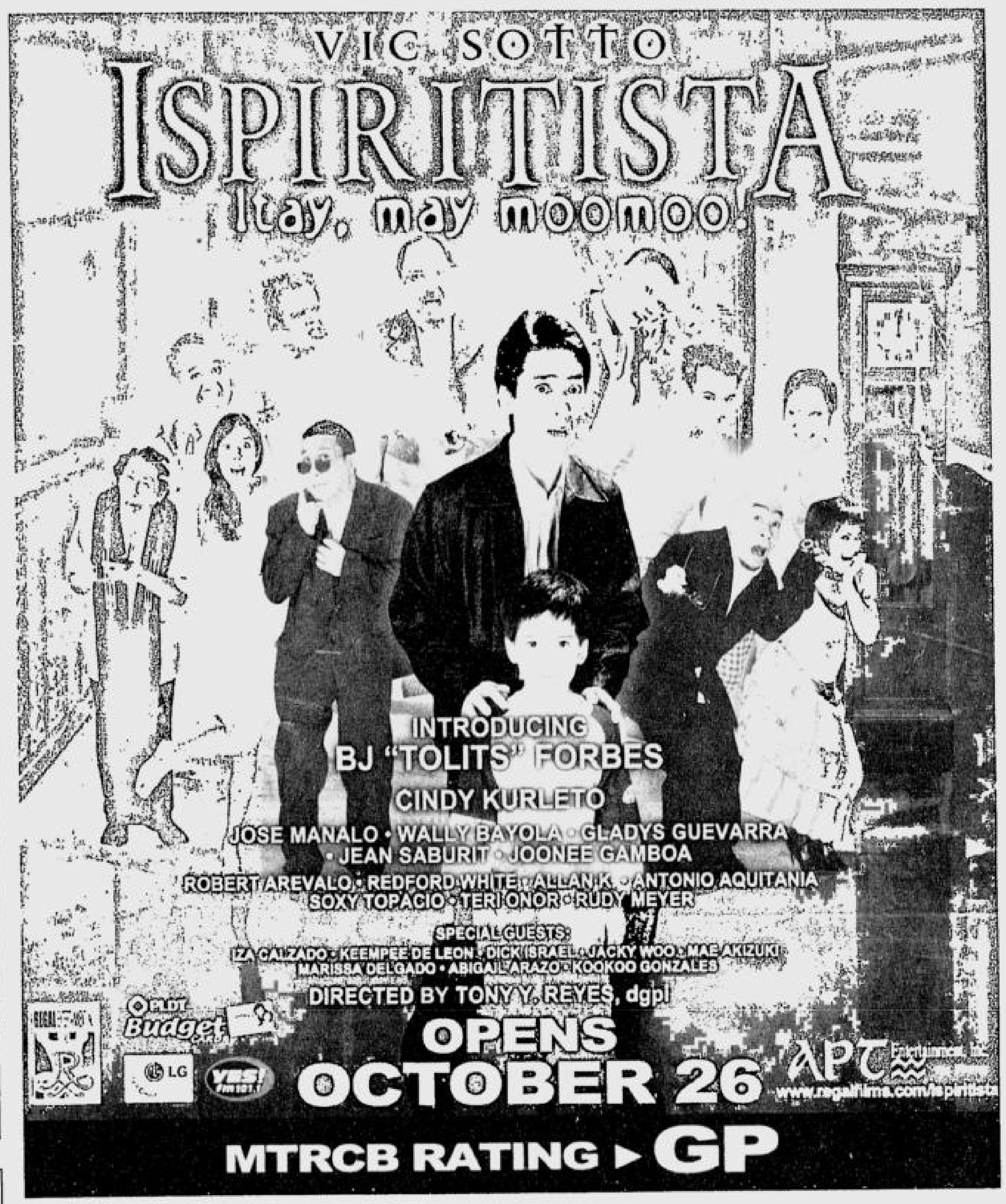
"It was a great feeling to represent the country and speak on its behalf," the movie's

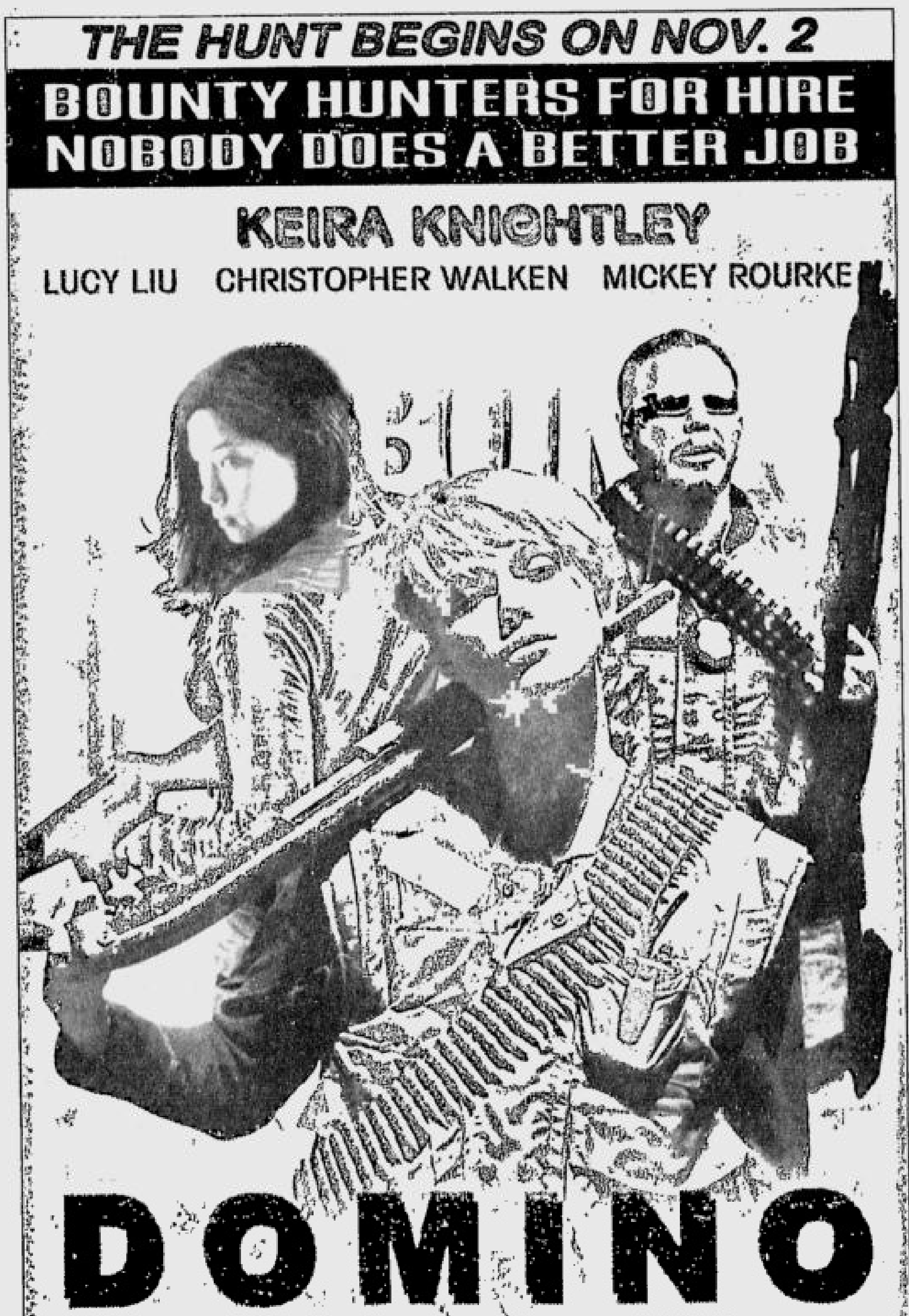
CEBU/ A29

MAKING US PROUD. Jomari Yllana, Jeffrey Jeturian and Joji Alonso at the Roppongi Hills in Tokyo

MTRCB RATING R-13
NOW SHOWING
NO ONE GETS OUT ALIVE
DWAYNE "THE ROCK" JOHNSON
KARL URBAN
ROSAMUND PIKE
RAZ ADOTI
DOOM
www.doommovie.com
united international pictures
release through Solar Entertainment Corporation
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Bring the entire family!
OPENS NATION-WIDE TOMORROW!
MTRCB RATING ▷ G
ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
Z
ANTONIO BANDERAS CATHERINE ZETA-JONES
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES


VIC SOTTO
ISPIRITISTA
Itay, may moomoo!
INTRODUCING
BJ "TOLITS" FORBES
CINDY KURLETO
JOSE MANALO • WALLY BAYOLA • GLADYS GUEVARRA
• JEAN SABURIT • JOONEE GAMBOA
ROBERT AREVALO • REDFORD WHITE • ALLAN K. • ANTONIO AQUITANIA
SOXY TOPACIO • TERI ONOR • RUDY MEYER
SPECIAL GUESTS:
IZA CALZADO • KEEMPEE DE LEON • DICK ISRAEL • JACKY WOO • MAE AKIZUKI
MARISSA DELGADO • ABIGAIL ARAZO • KOOKOO GONZALES
DIRECTED BY TONY Y. REYES, dgpi
PLDT Budget
LG
YES! FM 101.1
OPENS OCTOBER 26
APT Entertainment, Inc.
www.regalfilms.com/ispiritista
MTRCB RATING ▶ GP


THE HUNT BEGINS ON NOV. 2
BOUNTY HUNTERS FOR HIRE
NOBODY DOES A BETTER JOB
KEIRA KNIGHTLEY
LUCY LIU CHRISTOPHER WALKEN MICKEY ROURKE
DOMINO
BASED ON A TRUE STORY

opens tomorrow
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
ASIA's #1
ROMANTIC-COMEDY
I believe ang
kapalaran mo'y ako.
At sana, ganun din
ang puso mo.
JEON
JI HYUN
CHA
TAE-HYUN
MY SASSY GIRL
NEW TAGALOG VERSION
(Featuring the Hit Song "I BELIEVE" by Jimmy Bondoc)

Computer Associates
Providing complete, secure, reliable, end to end storage protection and management for all business critical data storage assets.
CALL NOW FOR MORE INFO!
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. (632) 727-3801 • www.ics.com.ph

TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 25, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1
BUSINESS
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net
Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

PETRON

T-bill yields inch up on BSP rate hike

MODULAR LIBRARIES
President Macapagal-Arroyo listens to David Mabey (fourth from left) of the UK-based Mabey Group of Companies and head of the Bevil Mabey Study Foundation, as he talks about the 1,000 modular libraries to be built across the country. The President yesterday attended the opening of WinSource Solutions' call center in Mandaluyong City. LYN RILLON

Increases minimal as banks remain awash with cash

By Michelle V. Remo

TREASURY BILL RATES INCHED up slightly across all maturities yesterday, snapping weeks of decline following the decision of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas last Thursday to raise its key interest rates anew.

Excess liquidity in the market forced banks to scramble for government securities, thus keeping the rise in interest rates minimal.

The 91-day T-bill rate, used by banks as a benchmark in pricing their loans, rose by 2.9 basis points to 5.847 percent. The three-month government securities were more than four times oversubscribed, with tenders reaching P4.7 billion compared with the P1-billion offering.

"Movement of the T-bill rates was sideways given the liquidity situation," National Treasurer Omar Cruz told reporters after yesterday's auction.

Cruz noted that there were P14.7 billion worth of maturing government securities this week that would further beef up liquidity among banks. Part of the cash generated by banks from maturing treasury bills and bonds are normally reinvested in government securities. *(See related story on page B18.)*

The 182-day bill fetched 7.899 percent, or 1.6 basis points higher than last week's. Tenders for the six-month government securities reached P8.84 billion, much higher than the P1.5-billion offering.

The rate for the 364-day bill rose by 2.4 basis points to 8.952 percent. Bids for the one-year debt instrument hit P6.57 billion compared with the offering of only P2 billion.

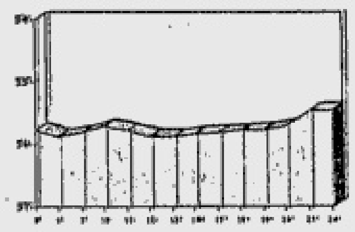
The Bureau of Treasury's auction committee decided to accept bids lower than the scheduled borrowings. Cruz explained that the move was to ensure the new treasury bill rates were aligned with the rates in the secondary market.

The Treasury accepted P915 million worth of bids for the three-month government securities, P1.35 billion for the six-month, and P1.44 billion for the one-year paper.

The BSP on Thursday raised its key interest rates by another 25 basis points, bringing its overnight borrowing rate to 7.5 percent and its overnight lending rate to 9.75 percent.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



OCTOBER

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

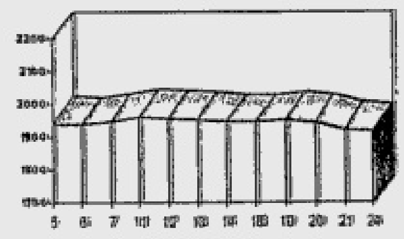
₱55.46 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Oct. 24, 2005

¥115.70 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Oct. 24, 2005

GOLD: **$463.50-464.00**
per ounce Hong Kong, Oct. 24, 2005

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX
OCTOBER



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Shares fall after rate hike

SHARES DECLINED YESTERDAY, still reeling from the central bank's interest rate increase last week.

The 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index fell 5.03 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,917.47, after sliding 1.1 percent on Friday.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas raised overnight rates last Thursday by another 25

SHARES/ B4

WORLD BANK STUDY

OFW money lifting many families out of poverty

By Doris C. Dumlao

REMITTANCES FROM OVERSEAS workers are lifting Philippine households out of poverty by boosting funds for education, health and entrepreneurship, a new World Bank study showed.

The study, titled "International Migration, Remittances, and the Brain Drain," the first to present evidence of the positive impact of remittances on poverty alleviation, included a detailed analysis of household survey data in the Philippines, Mexico and Guatemala.

The chapter on the Philippines indicated that households with OFWs tended to be wealthier than others in terms of per capita income based on 1997-1998 data.

In June 1997 or a month before the Asian financial crisis, the study estimated that 5.9 percent of Philippine households had one or more members working abroad.

Fifty-one percent of these OFW-aided households landed in the top 25 percent of the national household income per capita distribution while 28 percent were in the next-highest quartile.

Only 9 percent of households with OFWs were noted to be still living below the poverty line.

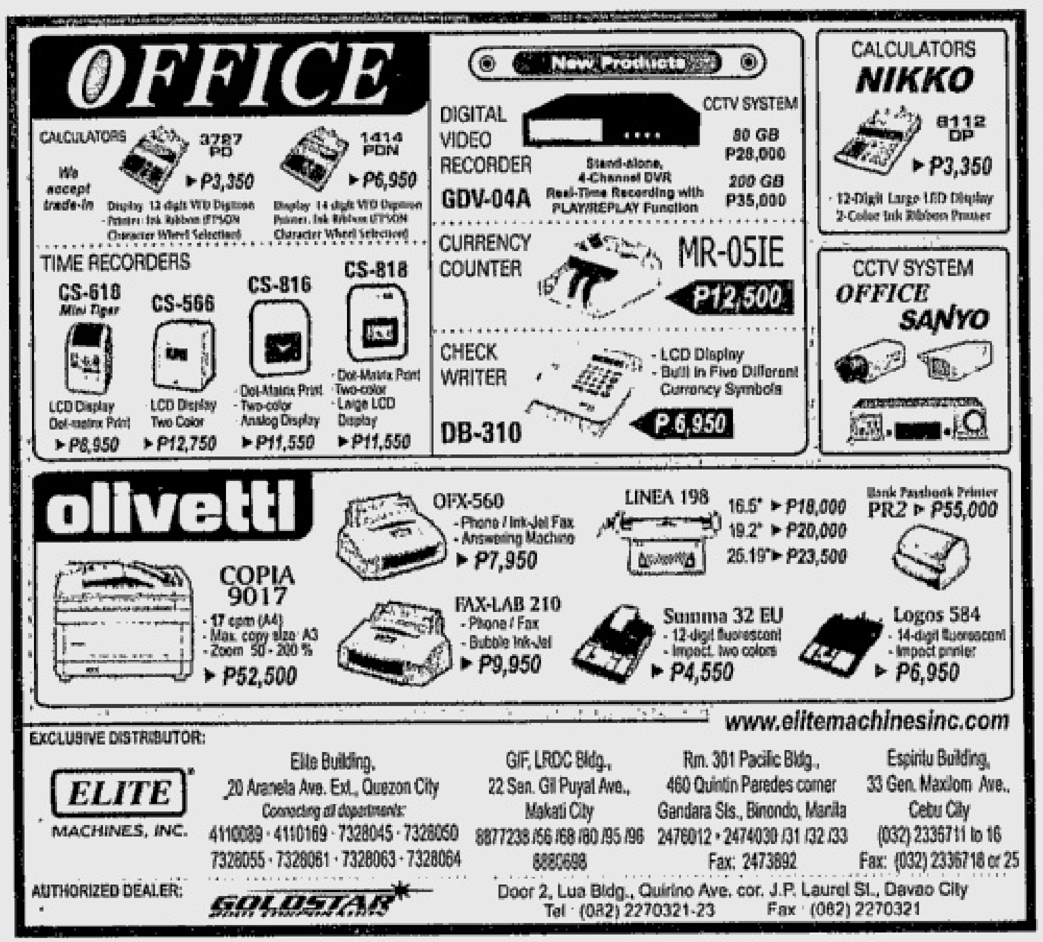
The average per capital income of OFW households was estimated at P20,235 ($778) during the pre-Asian crisis period as opposed to ordinary households which had a higher poverty rate of 31 percent and a lower per capita income of P11,857 ($456).

The study further noted that a currency exchange shock similar to the peso devaluation against the US dollar during the Asian crisis could lead to increases in household remittance receipts and in total household income. A 10-percent improvement in the exchange rate leads to a 0.6 percentage

OFW/ B6

MARK OF SUCCESS '65
BIG FISH. BIG POND.

NOW, YOU CAN OWN AN EXPLORER, WORRY-FREE!
Free Ford Solutions 2-year plan and 2,000 liters of fuel for new buyers.
Promo valid from October 16 to November 16, 2005. Visit a Ford dealership today!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 6137, Series of 2005.
www.ford.com.ph
Ford Solutions
• Ford Alabang, Trunk Lines 842-3621 / 842-4628; Fax No 807-4430 • Ford Balintawak, Trunk Line 927-9648, Fax No 927-5981 • Ford Commonwealth, Tel Nos 952-9118, 952-9441, 952-9446 Fax No 952-9440 • Ford EDSA Greenhills, Tel No 744-2222, Fax No 723-6311 • Ford EDSA Service Center Tel No: 723-7029
• Ford Libis, Trunk Line 637-2044, Fax No 637-6008 • Ford Global City, Trunkline 860 8888 / 818-5555, Fax No. 818-5000 • Ford Manila, Tel. No. 562 5555 Fax No 562 8185 • Ford Quezon Avenue, Tel Nos. 731 2617 / 742-3435 / 742-3436 Fax. 742-3451 • Ford Shaw Blvd., Trunk Line. 717-0888, Telefax 717-1390
• Ford Pampanga, Trunk Line (045) 961-2888, Fax Nos (045) 963-5205 / 961 2277 • Ford Cabanatuan, Tel No: (044) 461-0111, Fax No (044) 600 4700 • Ford Dagupan, Tel No (075) 522-2222, Telefax (075) 515-5520 • Ford San Pablo, Tel No (049) 562-9186, Telefax (049) 562 8324 • Ford Cavite, Tel No (046) 472 2010, Fax (046) 472-2048
• Ford Cebu, Trunk Line (032) 231-9180, Fax No (032) 231-9023 • Ford Bacolod, Tel No (034) 432-2151, Telefax (034) 434-2877 • Ford Iloilo, Tel. No (033) 321-3152, Telefax No. (033) 321-3351 • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Tel No (088) 855-8811, Telefax (088) 855-8877 • Ford Davao, Tel No. (082) 234-1111, Fax No (082) 234-2222



OFFICE
CALCULATORS
We accept trade-in
3787 PD ▶ P3,350 Display 12 digit VFD Digitron · Printer: Ink Ribbon (EPSON Character Wheel Selection)
1414 PDN ▶ P6,950 Display 14 digit VFD Digitron · Printer: Ink Ribbon (EPSON Character Wheel Selection)
TIME RECORDERS
CS-618 Mini Tiger · LCD Display · Dot-matrix Print ▶ P8,950
CS-566 · LCD Display · Two Color ▶ P12,750
CS-816 · Dot-Matrix Print · Two-color · Analog Display ▶ P11,550
CS-818 · Dot-Matrix Print · Two-color · Large LCD Display ▶ P11,550
New Products
DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDER GDV-04A · Stand-alone, 4-Channel DVR · Real-Time Recording with PLAY/REPLAY Function · CCTV SYSTEM · 80 GB P28,000 · 200 GB P35,000
CURRENCY COUNTER MR-05IE P12,500
CHECK WRITER DB-310 · LCD Display · Built in Five Different Currency Symbols P 6,950
CALCULATORS NIKKO 8112 DP ▶ P3,350 · 12-Digit Large LED Display · 2-Color Ink Ribbon Printer
CCTV SYSTEM OFFICE SANYO
olivetti
COPIA 9017 · 17 cpm (A4) · Max. copy size A3 · Zoom 50 - 200 % ▶ P52,500
OFX-560 · Phone / Ink-Jet Fax · Answering Machine ▶ P7,950
FAX-LAB 210 · Phone / Fax · Bubble Ink-Jet ▶ P9,950
LINEA 198 · 16.5" ▶ P18,000 · 19.2" ▶ P20,000 · 26.19" ▶ P23,500
Summa 32 EU · 12-digit fluorescent · Impact, two colors ▶ P4,550
Bank Passbook Printer PR2 ▶ P55,000
Logos 584 · 14-digit fluorescent · Impact printer ▶ P6,950
www.elitemachinesinc.com
EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR: ELITE MACHINES, INC.
Elite Building, 20 Araneta Ave. Ext., Quezon City · Connecting all departments: 4110089 · 4110169 · 7328045 · 7328050 · 7328055 · 7328061 · 7328063 · 7328064
G/F, LRDC Bldg., 22 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City · 8877238 /56 /68 /80 /95 /96 · 8880698
Rm. 301 Pacific Bldg., 460 Quintin Paredes corner Gandara Sts., Binondo, Manila · 2476012 · 2474030 /31 /32 /33 · Fax: 2473892
Espiritu Building, 33 Gen. Maxilom Ave., Cebu City · (032) 2336711 to 16 · Fax: (032) 2336718 or 25
AUTHORIZED DEALER: GOLDSTAR · Door 2, Lua Bldg., Quirino Ave. cor. J.P. Laurel St., Davao City · Tel (082) 2270321-23 · Fax (082) 2270321

A promise is a premise

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT'S TROUBLING us down here in my barangay.

And it's not even that some groups (i.e. mafia) in the state-owned, bankrupt Napocor are said to be lobbying in Congress to delay the privatization of Napocor power plants.

As a good indication of the seriousness of such a lobby, the Napocor mafia was even proud to announce in media their plan to borrow millions of dollars more in the near future.

Although Napocor is already buried neck high in debts, nobody can say if Napocor also wants to bury several generations of Filipinos alongwith it, too.

Just when nobody was looking, Napocor already made an "assist-pass" to this broke, but still cute, administration of Gloriaetta.

Napocor transferred P200 billion of its debts to the national government.

Apparently, the purpose of the fastbreak throw was for Napocor to clean up its books, at least clean enough to make it attractive to buyers.

Now, the mafia was said to be asking some groups in Congress—which are loyal to this cute administration of course—to amend the Epira law.

They aim to postpone the privatization. In other words, happy days are here again.

But that's not what is worrying us down here.

***

WHAT bothers us is, our poverty-stricken country is hosting the SEA Games.

Okay, it's not that the quadrennial event will cost this country, more or less, as much as the "pork" that goes to waiting sheds and stadiums.

(Warning: The cost of waiting sheds and stadiums should be multiplied four times to arrive at the cost of billboards on those waiting sheds and stadiums, all proclaiming the good news from our governor, congressmen, mayors and jueteng lords.)

It's just that this is a basketball crazy country.

And so, for the sake of the throngs of adoring fans of the game, in that SEA Games that will cost us an arm and a leg, plus a vital internal organ, we may not be able to field our own national basketball team.

***

BUT how in Sesenando Jr.'s name could that happen?

Well, it's because our leaders in sports always know better than us.

They already decided that, if they could only sacrifice a bit, and they would continue to fight among themselves just a little longer, then we would not really need to compete in such a popular sporting event.

In this country, after all, basketball games only cause brawls in bars, streets, and those stadiums built out of "pork." We are probably the most basketball fanatic country in the whole world!

Here, basketball is not just a national pastime; it is a religion. Every day, we pray to the basketball gods!

And so, for the sake of the fans, our sports leaders decided that they should just try to spoil our fun in the SEA Games by simply bickering among themselves.

What else is new?

***

MEANWHILE, as our dearly beloved, most favorite politicos try their best to cut each other's throats—without much success, unfortunately—everybody also hurries to revise some business targets.

Up or down, you may wonder. Well, it depends.

Some things, if they go up, are good for us—meaning, the impoverished people in this CPR-enforced country. You know—sales, investments, profits and new jobs. These make the economy grow, and we all love that.

On the other hand, some things better remain low.

These are things like the inflation rate, interest rates, fuel prices, electricity rates and, last but not least, GRAFT and CORRUPTION!

In business nowadays, they are revising downwards those things that are good for us if they go up, and vice versa. In short, uh-oh!

***

NOT only in business are they doing such a wholesale sweeping revision of everything. This cute administration is also busy trying to change its targets.

The Bangko Sentral, for instance, says that it is raising the target for the inflation rate—meaning, simply, everything will become more expensive.

On the other hand, the same Bangko Sentral thinks that Filipino workers abroad—the OFWs—will remit more money, an increase of up to 20 percent.

Then, you have the Department of Tourism saying that tourist arrivals will hit five million. Remember, boss, a promise is a promise!

In other words, they are saying that, despite bad politics and even worse governance, we can expect to do better in tourism and OFW remittances next year.

It is known in my trade as the "good news" tactic.

But notice that the good news concern what they call in the BOP (or balance of payments), which is how the economy performs alongside other countries, as "invisibles."

The "invisibles" come from outside. We have absolutely no control over them.

I don't know if the term is indicative of the economic gains that those forecasts are supposed to bring about in this country.

***

ON THE projection of even higher inflation rates, of course, this cute administration has a good excuse: the increase in oil prices worldwide.

The price of fuel must go up and along with it the cost of transporting goods, even useless stuff such as food.

On that score, I also cannot bet my manhood that the REVISED inflation rate, although it is higher, can reflect the cut in my spending power.

You see, they measure inflation based on a basket of goods, which are each assigned a different weight in the computation of the inflation rate.

With the tremendous jump in gas prices, fuel and transport costs must be eating up much more of our income, as against, for instance, our food allowance.

I mean, to make ends meet down here in my barangay, we take away from food (or cell phone load) to make up for the rising transport cost.

Is that reflected on the inflation rate? Well, is the earth square?

***

FOR instance, according to the revised target for inflation rate, it should not be 7.5 percent next year but, in reality, closer to 8 to 8.5 percent. Really?

That's a one—again ONE—percentage point increase at the most. I don't know what market those guys in Bangko Sentral go to, but in our markets down here in my barangay, prices do not increase just by 8 to 8.5 percent in a year.

Take the price of the most famous fish of all—the *galunggong*! At P60 a kilo, its price became the battlecry of this cute administration.

How much does it cost today? Well, you can get it for P90 a kilo—if you are lucky! And that's a 50 percent increase!

Add to the price of food, the prohibitive price of clothing, medicine, transport fare—in other words, everything—and you have an inflation rate of only 8 to 8.5 percent? Sure, I can believe this cute administration, but I just want to know what country they are talking about.

What worries us down here, boss, is that this cute administration is not likely going to do anything about it.

It is still trying to be cute. But this administration is a cute one under siege.

I am not sure it is up to the task of telling us what we ought to do.

***

LOOK, the best that its apologists can offer us, the suffering public, is to call on all the politicos to stop bickering.

It is not even an original thought.

It merely echoes the public pronouncements from religious groups that are known to make oodles and oodles of money.

And so now, as a solution to our mounting economic problems, this poor country—one of the poorest in the region, in fact—is now reduced to ... well, "revising targets."

Sure, boss, let's revise everything from Batanes to Tawi-tawi.

Let's do it tomorrow. So now, we change the premise, and you now promise us more bad times.

What do we do down here, boss, in the face of those "revised targets." That's what we want to know.

UNIONBANK

SSS-Makati Bldg., Ayala Ave., cor. Rufino St., Makati City

A full-service universal bank with 111 branches
A partnership among the Aboitiz Group, Insular Life Assurance Co. and Social Security System

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONDITION
(Head Office and Branches)
As of September 30, 2005

ASSETS

Cash & Cash Items	P	645,217,052
Due from Bangko Sentral		2,531,802,598
Due from Other Banks		2,011,082,177
Interbank Loans Receivable		35,523,036,213
Trading Account Securities (Net)		73,134,451
Investments in Bonds & Other Debt Instruments (Net)		35,857,478,261
Loans, Discounts & Advances (Net)		13,243,672,244
Equity Investments (Net)		1,462,007,769
Bank Premises, Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (Net)		3,346,333,318
Other Assets (Net)		9,924,335,795
Property Owned/Acquired		5,894,937,436
Others		4,029,398,359
TOTAL ASSETS	P	104,618,099,878

LIABILITIES

Demand Deposits	P	13,392,305,799
Savings Deposits		17,685,524,085
Time Deposits		28,915,369,032
Special/Other Deposits		32,727,517
Due to Bangko Sentral		26,295,381
Outstanding Checks/Payment Orders		2,201,938,002
Bills Payable:		11,521,267,317
BSP – Rediscounts/Special Programs		19,045,668
Interbank Borrowings		10,641,357,094
Deposit Substitutes		860,864,555
Unearned Income & Other Deferred Credits		1,258,953,845
Other Liabilities		11,184,690,134
TOTAL LIABILITIES	P	86,219,071,112

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Capital Stock	P	7,087,057,923
Surplus		11,245,298,722
Surplus Reserves		66,672,121
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	18,399,028,766
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	104,618,099,878

CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS

Unused Commercial Letters of Credit	P	364,571,951
Bills for Collection		48,557,410
Spot/Future Exchange Sold		15,790,666,424
Spot/Future Exchange Bought		2,010,456,760
Assets Held under Trust & Investment Management Agreements		5,410,580,648
Invested in:		
Government Securities		3,136,718,081
Other Securities, Debt Instruments And Shares of Stock		265,902,820
Loans & Discounts		2,000,294,353
Other Assets		7,665,394
Accountabilities:		
Trust & Other Fiduciary		4,350,440,274
Common Trust Funds		720,641,944
Investment/Fund Management		339,498,430
Other Contingent Accounts		1,630,335,779
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	P	25,255,168,972

Other Information

1. Deposits of:		
a) Government	P	7,590,793,914
b) Banks		421,823,300
c) Trust Department		721,621,535
2. Compliance with Magna Carta Law:		
a) Prescribed Ratio of Compliance for 6% (Small Enterprises)		7.02%
b) Prescribed Ratio of Compliance for 2% (Medium Enterprises)		5.96%
3. Amount of Non-Performing Loans		4,063,691,580
4. Ratio of Non-Performing Loans to Total Loan Portfolio		7.89%
5. Amount of Classified Loans and Other Risk Assets		5,592,527,571
6. General Provision for Loan Losses		385,652,638
7. Specific Provision for Loan Losses		2,341,699,444
8. Return on Equity (ROE)		17.00%
9. Amount of DOSRI Loans/Advances		633,259,659
10. Ratio of DOSRI Loans/Advances to Total Loan Portfolio		1.23%

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
MAKATI CITY) S.S.

We, Cesar G. Ilagan and Victor B. Valdepeñas of the above-mentioned bank do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above statement of condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(Sgd) CESAR G. ILAGAN
Senior Vice President

(Sgd) VICTOR B. VALDEPEÑAS
President

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 17th day of October, 2005, affiants exhibiting to me their Community Tax No. 15634381 issued at Quezon City on January 04, 2005 and Community Tax No. 02167105 issued at Manila on January 20, 2005, respectively.

MIGUEL G. PADERNAL
NOTARY PUBLIC
UNTIL DEC. 31, 2005
PTR NO 7073818
JAN. 22, 2004
MAKATI CITY

Doc. No. 86
Page No 19
Book No LXIV
Series of 2005.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONDITION
(Bank and its Subsidiaries and Affiliates)
As of September 30, 2005

ASSETS

Cash & Cash Items	P	645,217,052
Due from Bangko Sentral		2,531,802,598
Due from Other Banks		2,011,082,177
Interbank Loans Receivable		35,523,036,213
Trading Account Securities (Net)		73,470,546
Investments in Bonds & Other Debt Instruments (Net)		35,857,478,261
Loans, Discounts & Advances (Net)		13,243,672,244
Equity Investments (Net)		1,454,535,983
Bank Premises, Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (Net)		3,346,333,322
Other Assets (Net)		9,930,322,301
Property Owned/Acquired		5,894,937,436
Others		4,035,384,865
TOTAL ASSETS	P	104,616,950,697

LIABILITIES

Demand Deposits	P	13,388,526,483
Savings Deposits		17,685,524,085
Time Deposits		28,915,369,032
Special/Other Deposits		32,727,517
Due to Bangko Sentral		26,295,381
Outstanding Checks/Payment Orders		2,201,938,002
Bills Payable:		11,521,767,317
BSP – Rediscounts/Special Programs		19,045,668
Interbank Borrowings		10,641,357,094
Others		861,364,555
Unearned Income & Other Deferred Credits		1,259,512,150
Other Liabilities		11,184,830,377
TOTAL LIABILITIES	P	86,216,490,344
Minority Interest in Allied Undertakings/Subsidiaries/Affiliates		1,431,587

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Capital Stock	P	7,087,057,923
Surplus		11,245,298,722
Surplus Reserves		66,672,121
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	18,399,028,766
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	104,616,950,697

CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS

Unused Commercial Letters of Credit	P	364,571,951
Bills for Collection		48,557,410
Spot/Future Exchange Sold		15,790,666,424
Spot/Future Exchange Bought		2,010,456,760
Assets Held under Trust & Investment Management Agreements		5,410,580,648
Invested in:		
Government Securities		3,136,718,081
Other Securities, Debt Instruments And Shares of Stock		265,902,820
Loans & Discounts		2,000,294,353
Other Assets		7,665,394
Accountabilities:		
Trust & Other Fiduciary		4,350,440,274
Common Trust Funds		720,641,944
Investment/Fund Management		339,498,430
Other Contingent Accounts		1,630,335,779
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	P	25,255,168,972

Other Information

1. Deposits of:		
a) Government	P	7,590,793,914
b) Banks		421,823,300
c) Trust Department		721,621,535

2. List of Bank's Financial Subsidiaries:
  - a) UnionBank Currency Brokers Corporation
  - b) UBP Securities, Inc.
  - c) Interventure Capital Corporation

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
MAKATI CITY) S.S.

We, Cesar G. Ilagan and Victor B. Valdepeñas of the above-mentioned bank do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above statement of condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(Sgd) CESAR G. ILAGAN
Senior Vice President

(Sgd) VICTOR B. VALDEPEÑAS
President

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 17th day of October, 2005, affiants exhibiting to me their Community Tax No. 15634381 issued at Quezon City on January 4, 2005 and Community Tax No. 02167105 issued at Manila on January 20, 2005, respectively.

MIGUEL G. PADERNAL
NOTARY PUBLIC
UNTIL DEC. 31, 2005
PTR NO. 7073818
JAN. 22, 2004
MAKATI CITY

Doc. No. 85
Page No. 15
Book No. LXIV
Series of 2005.

www.unionbankph.com

KEEP YOUR FOOD FRESH!
Visit our new showroom. Equipments at affordable prices!
www.rueyshing.com
FREE Service Warranty Factory Priced
IMPORTED FROM TAIWAN
All stocks available!
WALK-IN COLD STORAGE · OPEN SHOWCASE · MOBILE REFRIGERATOR 402/602/5002/1302 · THREE-DOOR SHOWCASE · DISPLAY FREEZER · CHEST FREEZER · REACH-IN REFRIGERATOR/ FREEZER · CONFECTIONARY SHOWCASE · ISLAND SHOWCASE
Choice of Refrigeration equipment, parts & accessories also Available.
瑞興冷凍設備公司 RUEY SHING REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT
• 1706 E. Rodriguez Ave. Cor. Los Angeles St., Cubao, QC Tels.: 411-4232 to 33 • 727-9652 • 727-9648 • 724-1135 Fax: 411-4456
• Door # 3 - Adolfo Fick Bldg., Hernan Cortez Mandaue City, Cebu 6014 Tels.: (032) 343-8350 • (032) 422-7633 • (032) 343-8350

Globe readying P300-M bond for 3G license

By Clarissa S. Batino

GLOBE TELECOM INC. YESTERDAY SAID IT would post a P300-million performance bond with the National Telecommunications Commission on or before the first week of December in compliance with one of the NTC's requirements in awarding new mobile frequency bands.

Parties interested to engage in third-generation mobile operations or 3G have until the first week of December to post the required bond.

In the event that the committed infrastructure investment was not put up, the NTC can penalize a company by calling on the bond.

In December, the commission is scheduled to award five 3G frequencies to carriers deemed qualified and capable of operating and financing the roll-out of the next generation cellular phone services.

The 3G network will allow wireless subscribers to make full-motion, real-time video calls and enable them to download content faster.

Globe claimed it was the first domestic carrier to comply with all of the NTC's requirements in relation to the 3G licenses.

"Now, 3G is upon us, and we are ready," said Globe president Gerardo Ablaza. "We are committed to investing today in these trials to make sure we will be ready when the time comes."

Globe presented to the NTC its five-year 3G network rollout plan, schedule of 3G rates, proof of technical and financial capability, track record and Congressional franchises.

In July this year, Globe became the first Philippine operator to test the 3G successfully. It completed voice calls and transmitted full-motion, real-time videos between two mobile users.

SMC unit taps new loan

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

NATIONAL FOODS Ltd., THE newly acquired dairy unit in Australia of San Miguel Corp., is securing a new loan for the refinancing of its parent firm's $1.5-billion bridge loan.

Company sources confirmed a UBS Investment Research report saying that San Miguel's $1.5-billion bridge finance facility, used to acquire National Foods is being refinanced with cheap debts, with rates at 90-120 basis points over the London Inter-bank Offered Rate (Libor). The borrower will be National Foods.

Separately, San Miguel already secured a loan facility worth $500-650 million to partly refinance the bridge loan.

San Miguel has yet to draw down on the $500-650-million loan facility, sources said.

Sources also told the INQUIRER that the balance of the $1.5 billion, not covered by the initial borrowing would be covered by

SMC/B5

Restore your defective equipment at Affordable Cost!
We Specialize in
LAPTOP & FAX REPAIRS
We also repair:
• PC's • Printer • Monitors
• Electronic Typewriters
• UPS • Shredders & Others
FOR MULTI-USERS AVAIL OF OUR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
Best in Customer Satisfaction' -Samsung Electronics AWARDED
BUSINESSCARE S.T.C. Inc.
Ortigas Center Makati/Manila
687-6425/687-4213/817-0977/817-0917

Bigwoods Transport Company
Quality American Trucks
FREIGHTLINER
INTERNATIONAL
731 Romualdez St., Manila 02-522-8765 /66
www.bigwoodstrucks.com
New Arrivals IH 9700, IH 9670, Freightliner 6 & 10 Wheeler Cabovers, Cummins Mechanical, Spring Susp.

Fingerprint Bundy Clock System
- Free demo at MYSOLUTIONS office
- PC not included
- Hardware and software included
- Unlimited users / employees
- Cash or dated company check
- Office Hours is 8:30am-7:00pm M-F
- Saturday, by appointment only
SPECIAL PROMO
for only P7,900
Other Products Available
PABX System
Structured LAN Cabling
CCTV Surveillance System
Door Access Control System
[illegible]
"Awarded 2005 No. 1 & Most Outstanding Fingerprint Bundy Clock System in the Philippine Market"
visit MySolutions at Penthouse, 812 [illegible] St., Brgy. Manresa, Quezon City for more inquiries: [illegible]

TLV® PRODUCTS
WITH FLUID CONTROL ENGINEERING
- ENERGY CONSERVERS
- PRODUCTION IMPROVERS
ARMSTRONG CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY
358 G. ARANETA AVE., SANTOL, QUEZON CITY
TELS. 7135211 TO 13 • 7135191 FAX 7135182

MSI PAYROLL
It ensures FAST, COMPLETE and ACCURATE computation of payroll and generation of government reportorial requirements.
ATTENTION: CPA's & BUSINESS CONSULTANCY AGENTS
REFER OUR PRODUCTS AND EARN EXTRA INCOME INSTANTLY
OTHER PRODUCTS:
MSI DTR (Daily Time Recording)
MSI PIS (Personnel Info. System)
MSI RS (Recruitment System)
PROFIT Retail System:
- Inventory System/Sales Manager/ Point-of-Sale/Purchase Order
Inquiry on Profit Retail call.....
734-8868 / 736-6753 / 735-4892
FREE DEMO within Metro Manila area only
METROSOFT, INC.
PACKAGED SYSTEMS APPLICATION PROVIDER
LG1 Cityland 9, Dela Rosa Condo., Dela Rosa St., Makati City
Tel.: 892-2798 / 894-1525 / 892-4530 / 892-4536 / 892-2808 / 894-1043 Fax No.: 892-2795 E-mail: msi@vasia.com

RobinsonsBank
A Savings Bank
Get a Robinsons Bank
HOME LOAN
with repricing rate based on the latest 364day T-Bill rate plus 3%, GUARANTEED!

Fixing TERM	INTEREST per ANNUM
1 year	10.00%
2 years	10.50%
3 years	11.00%
5 years	11.50%

Visit or call your Robinsons Bank branch now!
For inquiries call our Customer Care Hotline at tel. no. 631-8888 or our toll free Provincial line 1-800-10-631-8888.
Our mall branches are open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to serve you.
Guaranteed repricing rate is for one year fixed term after the initial rate-fixing period regardless of the original term.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Regional Office 6
Quintin Salas, Jaro, Iloilo City
☎(033) 329-2165 / 320-6246
🖷(033) 320-4764

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The *National Food Authority, Region 6*, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites Security agencies to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project	Provision of Security Services, Cy-2006
Location	Region VI
Brief Description	Provision of Security Services, Cy-2006, at NFA Regional/Provincial Offices and NFA-Owned and Leased Warehouses
Approved Budget for the Contract	P11,653,200.00
Contract Duration	January 1 – December 31, 2006
Delivery Period	January 1 – December 31, 2006

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last 3 years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding, and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the prosecution of the project. The list of minimum equipment requirement is indicated in the Eligibility Forms. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Address	Date	Time
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	Conference Room, 2/F National Food Authority, Jaro, Iloilo City	Oct. 25, 2005 – Nov. 24, 2005	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
2. Pre-Bid Conference	Conference Room, 2/F National Food Authority, Jaro, Iloilo City	Nov. 25, 2005	9:00 a.m.
3. Deadline for Submission & Receipt of Eligibility Requirements & Bid Documents	Conference Room, 2/F National Food Authority, Jaro, Iloilo City	Dec. 8, 2005	9:00 a.m.
4. Opening of Bids	Conference Room, 2/F National Food Authority, Jaro, Iloilo City	Dec. 8, 2005	9:30 a.m.
5. Bid Evaluation		Dec. 9-14, 2005	
6. Post-Qualification		Dec. 15-20, 2005	
7. Notice of Award		Dec. 22, 2005	

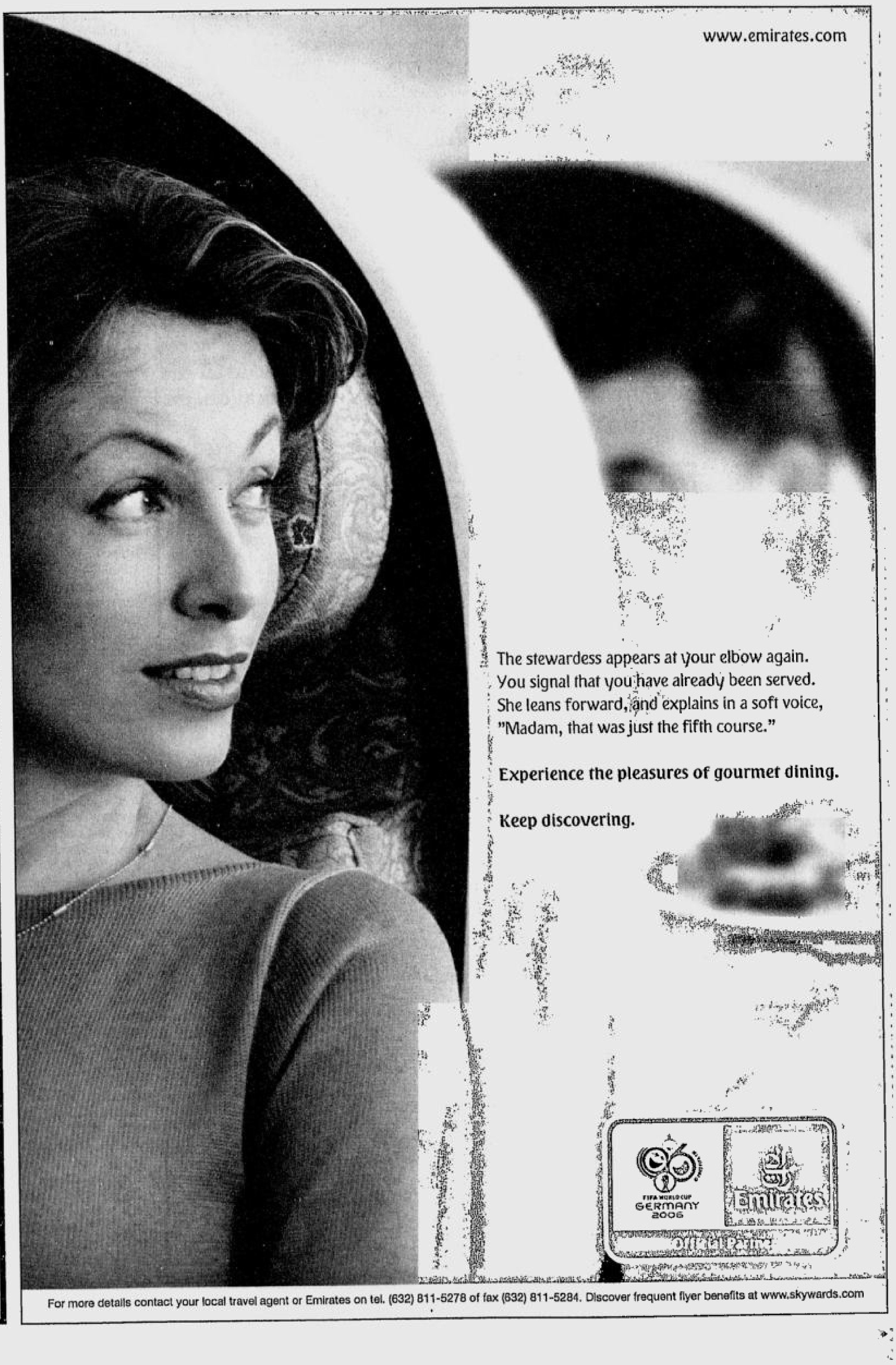
Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) to the National Food Authority Cashier.

The National Food Authority, Region 6 assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The *National Food Authority, Region 6* reserves the right to accept any Bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) VILMA H. ZARRAGA, MNSA
BAC-Chairman

(PDI – October 25 & November 1, 2005)


www.emirates.com

The stewardess appears at your elbow again.
You signal that you have already been served.
She leans forward, and explains in a soft voice,
"Madam, that was just the fifth course."

Experience the pleasures of gourmet dining.

Keep discovering.

FIFA WORLD CUP GERMANY 2006
Emirates
Official Partner

For more details contact your local travel agent or Emirates on tel. (632) 811-5278 of fax (632) 811-5284. Discover frequent flyer benefits at www.skywards.com

If "only prostitutes" get HIV or AIDS,
why do 1,400 children under 15 die from AIDS-related illnesses every day?

Down to earth

MR. BEARBULL

Ron Nathan

HAVING HAD A BUSY WEEKEND, I AM TRYING to write this article while, at the same time, watching the swimsuit competition of Miss Earth. This is very difficult, as I have to separate the two hemispheres of my brain. The right hemisphere is for creative activities such as writing, while the left is for figures, though usually of a different kind. If I undresstimate any of the contestants, please bare with me. Another problem is that my glasses kept getting misted over. I was supposed to have been a judge but my wife threatened to hide my kidney medicine.

SMPH is bidding for a five-hectare lot, which is currently Manila City Jail. If the deal goes through, the government will either have to relocate 4,000 murderers and rapists or give them jobs in the mall. The sex offenders will be sent either to penal colonies of semenaries.

Instead of a pumpkin, I bought a Halloween cow, which says moo moo.

I got so depressed that I called the suicide help line but they put me on HOLD.

Welcome to the Mental Health Hotline:

If you are obsessive-compulsive, press 1 repeatedly.

If you are co-dependent, ask someone to press 2 for you.

If you have multiple personalities, press 3,4,5 and 6. You will be entitled to a group discount.

If you are paranoid, we know who you are and what you want. Stay on the line so that we can trace your call.

If you are delusional, press 7 and you will be transferred to the mother ship.

If you are manic-depressive, it doesn't matter which number you press, no one will answer.

If you are dyslexic, press 969696969696.

If you have a nervous disorder, just forget with the hash key until a representative comes on the line.

If you have amnesia, press 8 and state your name, address, phone number, date of birth, social security number and your mother's maiden name.

If you have low esteem, hang up. All our operators are too busy to talk to you.

* * *

IT was a boring week in the market until Friday, when the Phisix dropped 22 points after the Central Bank raised rates by a quarter point. The day before, Governor Tetangco refused to speculate on the future of interest rates after the Thai central bank had just raised its rates by a half point to curb inflation. Over the past month, Indonesia has raised rates 3 times to 11 percent after the rupiah hit a four-year low. And the Fed has raised rates 11 months in a row and will continue to do so.

The effect of the increase was to strengthen the peso, which has been the strongest currency this past month and is about the only one to appreciate against a strong dollar. If the VAT bill is not delayed, deferred or overturned by the Senate or Congress, the peso will remain firm and interest rates will rise. This will help reduce the amount we spend on petrol and even help reduce the effect of the VAT slightly. It will be the disadvantage of overseas workers who remit most of their earnings to their families. The VAT will affect new homes selling at P2.5 million or over and mortgage rates will rise. That is why ALI fell 40 centavos to P8.50 on Friday. Because of increases in petrol and electricity plus a variety of goods and services, consumer spending will be reduced and the malls are no longer crowded like before.

On Oct. 27, the PSE is hosting a 1-day seminar on the Philippine Mining Industry for Trading Participants. Since the Supreme Court ruled that foreigners who invest in the mining industry could own 100 percent of any company they set up, the government is making it a priority to attract overseas investors, particularly from Asia. According to JDV, we are sitting on $1 trillion worth of metals and minerals. We don't have the money or the technology to make extraction viable but foreign companies do and will, given the right incentives.

China grew by 9.4 percent in the 3rd quarter, which means that demand for copper, nickel and many other metals will remain strong. If the government can remove the bureaucratic red tape, we should be able to attract a huge volume of investment. At present, mining accounts for 1.6 percent of GDP. By 2010, the government hopes to increase this to 15 percent, a near tenfold increase.

Many companies will be new and speculative but companies such as Philex should be able to find partners for its large reserves of copper and gold. Recently, the company signed a contract with Trans Pacific, a Canadian company that will provide it with sufficient initial funds in exchange for a modest stake in the project. If it goes well, Trans Pacific will put in a lot more and increase its stake further. Last year, I predicted that PXB would rise to P1.80 and it did. This time around, I do not want to give a price target but the shares have been moving up steadily to P1.18, its high last June. If it moves any higher, the next immediate resistance is P1.40. Volume has been increasing and on Thursday, REGIS bought 4.5 million shares in a single purchase.

Fil Hispano has changed its named to Paxys and its symbol is now PAX. The 3rd quarter results are due in about a week and should show a 50-percent increase over the 2nd quarter. I would guess around P80 million against P53 million and the 4th quarter should be better still. The number of seats has increased this year from 1,700 to 2,800 and should exceed 3,000 by the end of the year.

Henry Sy and his family have opened their 3rd mall in China and Wal-Mart is one of their lessees. At present, these malls belong to the Sy family but they might be sold to SMPH or SMIC in due course.

Jollibee is acquiring Red Ribbon for P1.8 million cash and pressing ahead with its plans to expand into India and China. With 1,100 outlets in the Philippines, there is not much room for further expansion.

URC is tripling its production of iced tea by investing $20 million in 2 new production lines. A diet version will be sold abroad by next January. Megaworld is putting up 6 new condominiums, especially for call centers. Robinson's Land is also building condominiums and malls so there is plenty of expansion going on. These are companies to watch.

I finished this article during 2 of the 30-minute commercial breaks.

I had my family rated by Moody's. It costs only $5 but you have to answer 200 questions. The results were as follows: my daughter was a HOLD, my spouse OVERWEIGHT and myself UNDERPERFORM. I must remember to take my Viagra.

AIM ASIAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

How to build the entrepreneurial spirit within the corporation...

CORE ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR TOP MANAGEMENT

NOV 14 - 16, 2005

This entrepreneurial leadership course is designed for owner-entrepreneurs, company founders, company board officers, and top management people who would like to imbue in their people the entrepreneurial spirit and build an entrepreneurial organization.

There is a pressing need in the corporate sector to instill an entrepreneurial spirit before it gives in to a rigid culture which discourages enterprise-building among its employees. Employees from the top of the ladder to the bottom should feel a personal stake in the company, such that they would be willing to devote internal resources of time, effort, and creativity to improve corporate performance. The course will benefit the corporation in terms of providing a unified purpose to its employees and management - that of moving in the positive direction of enterprise-building.

COURSE CONTENT

- What is Corporate Entrepreneurship
- Managing Change Towards Corporate Entrepreneurship
- Corporate Entrepreneur as Innovator and Change Master
- Creation of New Paradigms and Processes
- Development of New Products and Ideas
- Strategy and Organizational Development
- Strategy Formulation and Formation
- Building the Entrepreneurial Organization
- Understanding Entrepreneurial Partnerships
- Installing Systems that Drive Entrepreneurial Performance
- Inspirational and Transformational Leadership
- Understanding Entrepreneurial Clans
- Confronting Founders' Dilemma
- Managing Corporate Transformation
- Institutionalizing Corporate Entrepreneurship

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

For inquiries and reservations call:
Ms. Luvy Villanueva & Ms. Liza Ayalde
Tel: +632 892-4011 to 25 ext. 187, 376, 252
Telefax: +632 813-3302
Email: ace@mail.aim.edu.ph
lvillanueva@mail.aim.edu.ph

EQUIS ACCREDITED

Eugenio Lopez Foundation Bldg., Joseph R. McMicking Campus
123 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1260 Philippines
www.aim.edu.ph

Shares

From page B1

basis points for the second month in a row and the third time this year after a hiatus of more than four years.

Bargain hunting, however, started to emerge yesterday, with investors picking up certain blue chips after the index slipped to around 1,909.

"Investors are still smarting to the central bank's rate action and the anticipation of another rate hike, possibly within this year," said Erwin Balita, analyst at AB Capital Securities.

PLDT closed 0.6 percent lower to P1,645, reflecting a 1.2-percent decline in its American depositary receipts in New York on Friday.

Ayala Land, the country's biggest property developer, slipped 1.2 percent to P8.40 as investors worried that its sales could be hit by the higher interest rates.

Petron Corp., the country's largest oil refiner, dropped 3 percent to P3.25 on expectation revenues may be hit by the steady rise in fuel prices, which would be boosted with the implementation of the expanded value added tax next month.

Except for the financial services sector, whose component companies could benefit from higher interest rates, all other sectoral indicators closed lower yesterday. *AP*

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of October 24, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	1,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	30.5	30.5	29.5	30	285,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	50	50	49.5	50	758,300
China Banking Corp.	600	600	600	600	680
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.54	0.57	0.54	0.56	1,220,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	19,900
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	26	26	25.5	26	181,000
Philippine National Bank	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	200
Security Bank Corp.	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	690,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	29	29	29	29	10,100
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Manulife Financial Corp.	2770	2770	2770	2770	30
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1	1.02	1	1.02	90,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2005	2005	2005	2005	300
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	900,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	710	710	705	705	26,290
Ipeople Inc.	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	5,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.048	0.049	0.048	0.049	700,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	1,398,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1635	1645	1630	1645	92,150
Ivantage Corp.	0.58	0.58	0.57	0.57	1,280,000
Philweb Corp.	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	4,800,000
POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES					
Manila Electric Co. A	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	2,000
Manila Electric Co. B	20.25	20.5	20.25	20.5	169,900
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3	169,000
Petron Corp.	3.35	3.35	3.25	3.25	4,701,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.93	0.99	0.93	0.99	50,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.72	1.72	1.72	1.72	267,000
Aboitiz Trans. Sys. Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.3	704,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.62	0.63	0.62	0.63	280,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	582,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Holcim Philippines Inc.	3.1	3.1	3	3.05	6,379,000
Republic Cement Corp.	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	20,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.72	1.72	1.72	1.72	500,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	8,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	33.5	33.5	33	33.5	269,600
Pancake House Inc.	2.85	2.95	2.8	2.9	156,000
RFM Corp.	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	40,000
San Miguel Corp. A	64.5	65	64.5	65	36,000
San Miguel Corp. B	91	92	91	92	21,300
Vitarich Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.3	350,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	19,000,000
Ayala Corp.	285	287.5	285	285	51,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	10,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	700,000
A. Soriano Corp.	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14	1,086,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.8	0.83	0.8	0.83	2,500,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	2,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	100,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	1,470,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.235	0.24	0.235	0.24	2,120,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	2.9	2.95	2.9	2.95	76,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	650,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	41	41.5	41	41	389,400
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.95	115,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	32,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.34	1.34	1.32	1.34	2,247,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.29	0.31	0.29	0.31	2,190,000
Paxys Inc.	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	57,000
Polar Property Holdings	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	10,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.215	0.22	0.2	0.2	1,080,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.23	500,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	10,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.49	30,000
SM Investments Corp.	220	220	215	220	101,260
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co	0.0825	0.09	0.0825	0.0825	1,600,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	1,000,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	200,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	860,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.16	1.16	1.14	1.14	100,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.72	0.73	0.72	0.73	710,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	2,500,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.44	1.44	1.42	1.44	321,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (PDR)	13.75	13.75	13.5	13.5	48,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,400
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.6	8,000
Far Eastern University	600	610	600	610	310
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4	1,267,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.205	0.21	0.205	0.21	13,830,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.21	0.21	0.205	0.205	1,230,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.37	0.37	0.36	0.36	1,750,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.22	1.24	1,208,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.19	0.19	0.185	0.185	2,850,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	80,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	913,000
SM Development Corp.	1.34	1.34	1.34	1.34	45,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	351,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	30,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	1,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.215	0.215	0.21	0.21	980,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.235	0.235	0.23	0.23	3,260,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	4,100,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	3,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	1	1	0.99	0.99	450,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	1.18	1.18	1.16	1.16	2,516,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	24.75	25.5	24.75	25.5	277,400
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.22	1,000,000
OIL					
Interport Res.	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	2,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	20,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	100,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	2,530,000

DISCLOSURES

MANILA Electric Co. will present its 2005 Third Quarter Results on Oct. 26, 3 p.m. at the Basement Mini-Theater of the Lopez Building in Meralco Center, Ortigas Avenue, Pasig City.

***

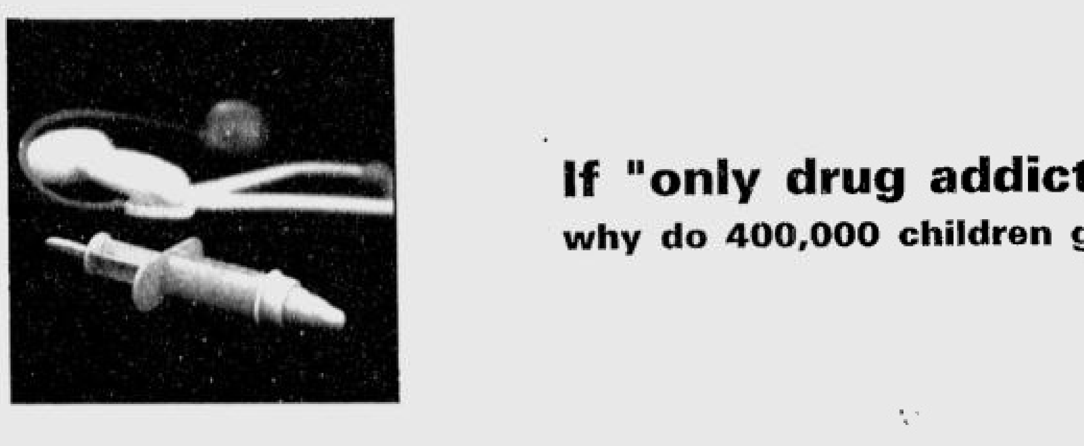
AYALA Land Inc. will conduct an analysts' briefing on the company's financial results from January-September 2005 on Nov. 11, 10 a.m. in the South Rooms A and B on the 25th floor of Tower One in the Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

***

SEMIRARA Mining Corp. acquired 6,000 outstanding shares at P25 per share, and 10,000 outstanding shares at P24.75 per share, on Oct. 21. The Exchange yesterday implemented a trading halt on the shares of Pancake House Inc. from 9-10 a.m. due to the company's issuance of five-year convertible notes. ***Compiled by: Jamie Alarcon, PDI Research***

CURRENCIES

October 24, 2005 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.836680	1.000000	55.5810
Japan	Yen	0.007221	0.008630	0.4797
United Kingdom	Pound	1.479585	1.768400	98.2894
Hongkong	Dollar	0.107895	0.128956	7.1675
Switzerland	Franc	0.647334	0.773694	43.0027
Canada	Dollar	0.704632	0.842176	46.8090
Singapore	Dollar	0.493558	0.589901	32.7873
Australia	Dollar	0.625836	0.747999	41.5745
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.219429	2.652661	147.4376
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.223097	0.266645	14.8204
Brunei	Dollar	0.492107	0.588166	32.6909
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000084	0.000100	0.0056
Thailand	Baht	0.020462	0.024456	1.3593
UAE	Dirham	0.227823	0.272294	15.1344
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.195200	66.4304
Argentina	Peso	0.280530	0.335289	18.6357
Brazil	Real	0.369314	0.441404	24.5337
Denmark	Kroner	0.134045	0.160210	8.9046
India	Rupee	0.018589	0.022217	1.2348
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.221725	0.265006	14.7293
Mexico	New Peso	0.076957	0.091979	5.1123
New Zealand	Dollar	0.585009	0.699203	38.8624
Norway	Kroner	0.128213	0.153240	8.5172
Pakistan	Rupee	0.014017	0.016753	0.9311
South Africa	Rand	0.125981	0.150573	8.3690
Korea	Won	0.000791	0.000945	0.0525
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024907	0.029769	1.6546



If "only drug addicts who use infected needles" get AIDS,
why do 400,000 children get infected with HIV before they're even born?

SMC unit taps new loan

From page B3

the loan being finalized by National Foods.

Portion of the new loan may also be used for potential new investments.

UBS also said in its report that the logistics and distribution networks of both National Foods and another San Miguel unit, Juice maker Berri Ltd., were already being integrated.

It said San Miguel management expects smooth integration between the two firms. Berri's management is reportedly familiar with National Food's operations, with Berri having sold one of its business lines to National Foods in prior years, UBS noted.

UBS also expects a merger between National Foods and Berri after San Miguel announced it would acquire the remaining 49 percent in the latter. San Miguel controls 51 percent of Berri.

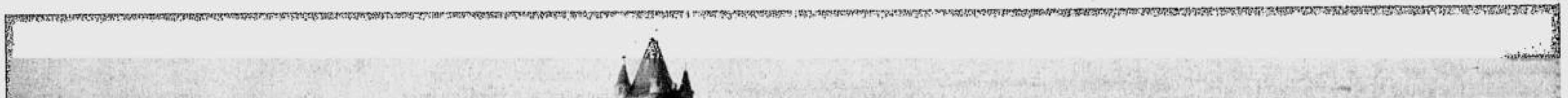
The takeover of National Foods, valued at A$1.9 billion ($1.5 billion), is SMC's largest investment this year.

INQUIRER sources said that the amount for the acquisition has yet to be studied and negotiated. The combined distribution channels of Berri and National Foods should generate savings for San Miguel, estimated at $30 million, Spencer White, Merrill Lynch Hong Kong strategist said.

Both brands may also be introduced in Singapore and other Asian countries.

11 days to go
Battle of the Courts
National Finals
Who will emerge as this year's champion?
VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB
>FINALIST
nonoy PADILLA
naini ONG
randy VILLANUEVA
didi GUERRERO
ken TORRES
beth NG
robert BOLAÑOS
cherry GOTIAN
Find out in the Battle of the Courts National Finals at the Rockwell Tent November 5 & 6, 2005
SMART Simply Amazing!
INQUIRER Badminton
Mizuno
SPONSORS
citibank Online
citibank
Unilever
CEBU PACIFIC
Rockwell Center
OFFICIAL HOTEL
Gerflor
TARAFLEX
MEDIA PARTNERS
WAVE 89.1
SOLAR SPORTS
Jam

SOMEDAY, YOU'LL WANT A ROOM WITH *THIS* VIEW.



Preserve your wealth. Live the life you deserve.

Maximize your resources to protect what you worked hard for.
BDO Private Bank's innovative wealth management tools allow you to capitalize on investment opportunities.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MONEY AND WEALTH.

BDO BANCO DE ORO Private Bank

27th Floor, Tower One, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue 1226
Makati City, Philippines Tel.No. (632)848.6300 Fax (632)848.6306
Email: info@pb.bdo.com.ph

If "only sexually promiscuous adults" are most at risk for AIDS,
why do 50 children get infected with HIV every 10 minutes?

Global Ispat in debt default, creditors claim

By Clarissa S. Batino

CREDITORS OF NATIONAL STEEL CORP. have declared the new owner of the steel company, Global Ispat Holdings Inc., in default after the firm failed to deliver a P500-million standby letter of credit last Oct. 15.

National Steel lenders, led by Philippine National Bank, are now calling in Global Ispat's P12.25 billion in unpaid principal dues.

Global Ispat is a unit of the sixth-largest Indian company and one of the largest steel producers in the world.

If the impasse is not resolved, the creditor banks again may be saddled with the debt pile of the former National Steel, barely a year after this problematic account was taken out of their bad loans portfolio.

But according to a banker, at least the creditors were paid a billion pesos in cash last year by Global Ispat.

"I don't look at the default as unfortunate for the banks because the new company had made improvements so, now, the company is worth more than it used to," the banker said.

Global Ispat had made improvements in National Steel's factory in Iligan City, which could raise the value of the steel firm's assets.

"Upon the instruction of the majority of NSC creditors, we hereby declare the entire unpaid principal of P12.25 billion immediately due and payable," said PNB in its Oct. 19 letter to Global Ispat and its subsidiary Global Steelworks Intl. Inc.

Under the agreement forged last year, the new owner of National Steel will deliver a standby letter of credit worth P500 million on or before Oct. 15.

Instead, Global Ispat wanted to put up a P125-million letter of credit this year and another P125-million next year.

"Creditors rejected the offer of Ispat because it was not what was agreed upon," a banker said.

Among the creditors, PNB had the biggest exposure to National Steel with P5.6 billion or 41 percent of the company's more than P16 billion in obligations.

Under the deal with the Indian firm, Global Ispat will pay National Steel's secured creditors and original stockholders P13.25 billion over an 8-year period after the initial cash payment of P1 billion last year.

OFW money . . .

From page B1

point decline in the poverty rate, it noted.

Households enjoying a more favorable exchange rate were also more likely to start a business, particularly in transportation and communication services, and manufacturing, which were activities involving considerable fixed costs in vehicles and equipment that could become more affordable in the wake of positive exchange rate shocks, the study pointed out.

Those investing in transportation services were likely to venture into taxi and minibus operation while likely manufacturing activities include small activities such as mat weaving, tailoring, dressmaking and food processing, the study said.

"The fact that the exchange rate shocks stimulated such investments suggests that the shocks are likely to have persistent and positive effects on household well-being over the long term, in addition to their leading to reductions in current poverty," the study said.

The study also found evidence of positive spillovers to households without OFWs in terms of gift-giving.

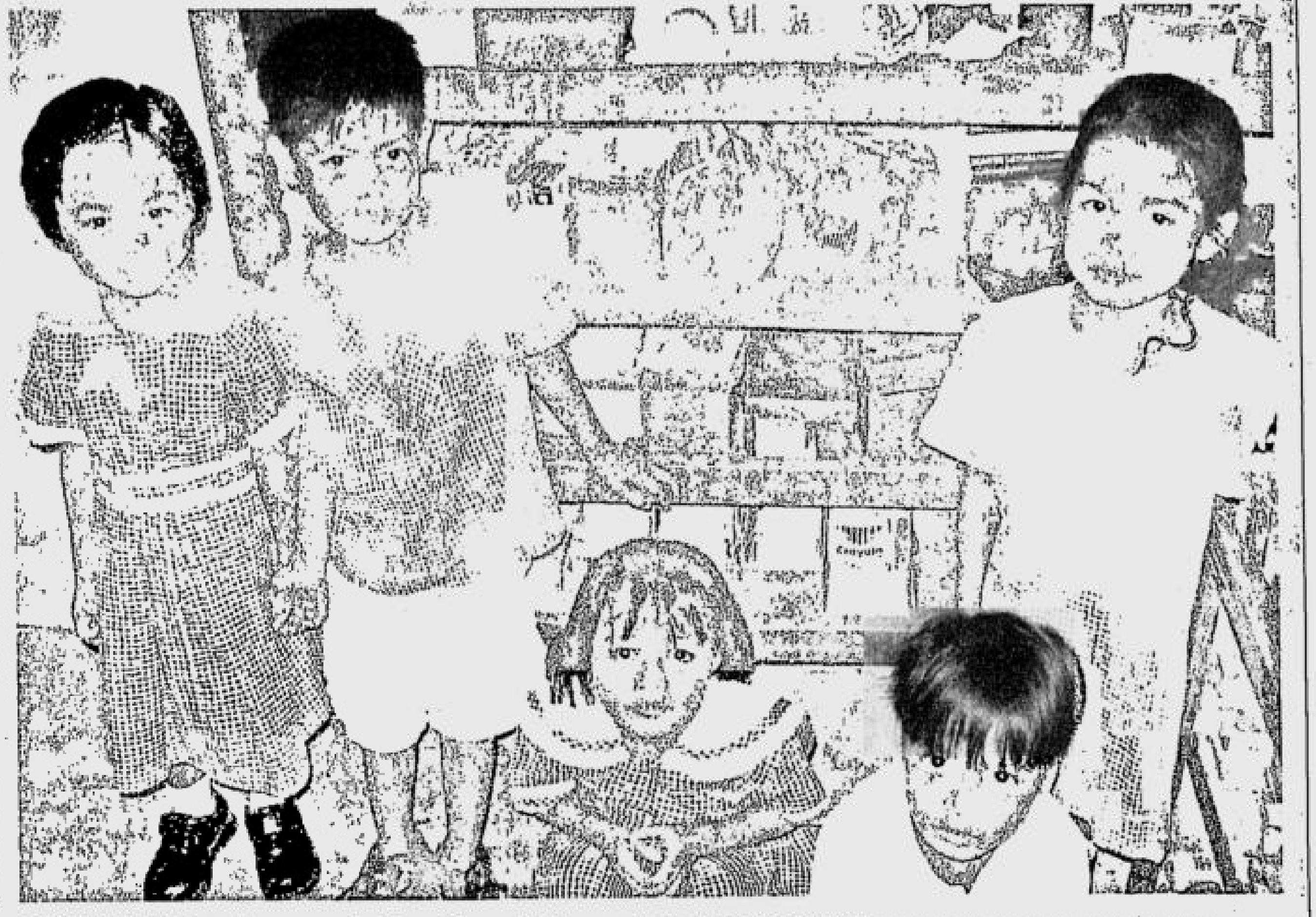
Other key findings of the WB study were:

- 31 percent of OFW household heads have some college or more education, compared with just 20 percent of non-OFW household heads.
- 23 percent of OFW household heads work in agriculture, compared with 38 percent in all other households.
- 68 percent of OFW households live in urban areas, compared with 58 percent of non-migrant households;
- Saudi Arabia is the biggest single destination of OFWs, with 28.4 percent of the total, and Hong Kong (China) comes in second with 11.5 percent. The only other economies accounting for 6 percent or more are Taiwan (China), Japan, Singapore and the United States;
- OFWs have a mean age of 34.5 years; 38 percent are single and 53 percent are male. The two largest occupational categories are production and related workers, and domestic servants, each accounting for 31 percent of the total.
- 31 percent of OFWs have achieved some college education, and an additional 30 percent have a college degree.

To address rising unemployment and balance-of-payments problems, the Philippine government initiated an Overseas Employment Program in 1974 to facilitate the placement of Filipino workers abroad. At first, the government directly managed the placement of workers with employers overseas, but soon yielded the function to private recruitment agencies and assumed a more limited oversight role.

A cup of latté and a daycare to go

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao



THE SWEETEST smiles are on the lips of these children enjoying the day care facilities donated by Starbucks and Unicef's SparkHope.

THERE ARE MORE SMILES GOING around in Barangay Taytay, Guiuan, Eastern Samar, thanks to the day care center filled with the laughter and high-pitched voices of children at play.

The same scene may be witnessed in the eight other day care centers set up in poor communities by Rustan Coffee Corp., operator of the Starbucks chain in the Philippines, under the SparkHope program with the United Nations Children's Fund.

Krie Reyes-Lopez, head of corporate social responsibility of Rustan Coffee, said the company initially thought of helping communities near Starbucks outlets as part of its outreach projects.

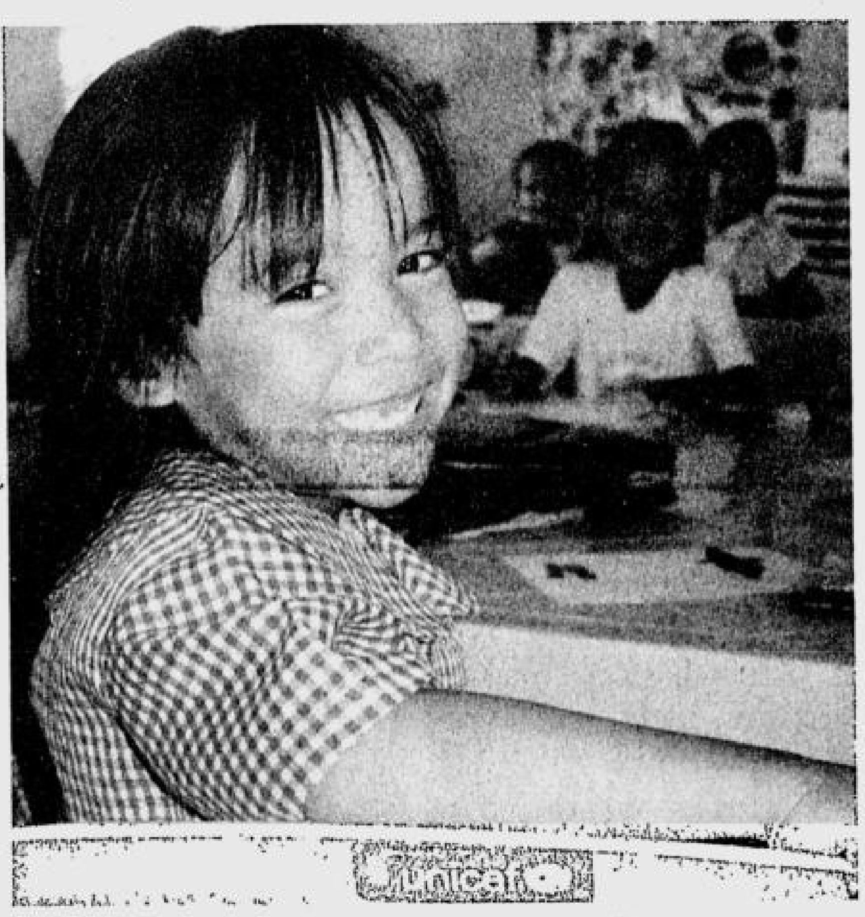
But Rustan quickly realized that most of the Starbucks outlets were in communities that do not really need help, at least not as much as those in provinces that will likely never see a Starbucks outlet in their midst.

Adopted communities

Starbucks' other adopted communities are in Bangkerohan, Catarman, Northern Samar; Buhangin, Baler, Aurora; Cadawinonan, Dumaguete, Oriental Negros; Simuay, Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao; Kalaong, Maitum, Sarangani; Mozzozin Sur, Sta. Maria, Isabela; San Isidro, Cataingan, Masbate and San Roque, Mercedes, Camarines Norte.

Five of these communities were devastated by super typhoons that hit the country last December. Starbucks decided to make these its first beneficiaries.

To ensure the most impact for every peso it donates, Rustan joined forces with Unicef and, together, developed the Sparkhope program in November 2004 to provide underprivileged communities with access to early learning programs.



THE LIGHT in this girl's eyes makes donations worthwhile.

"We have always been advocates of early education," Lopez said. "And we want to contribute positively to the poorest of the poor. That is part of our mission."

Unicef developed the early education package, which involves teaching two people from the community to become day care teachers, provide tables and chairs, storybooks, educational books, musical instruments for a pre-school and build a playground in the community.

Starbucks supports the program by providing the funds and other assistance needed in the implementation of the program.

CORPORATE CITIZEN

Early learning

Lopez said Starbucks concentrated on early education because it believed that helping children up to six years old would reap the most rewards.

Studies show that the first six years of life were the most critical in a child's education, contributing 98 percent to his or her brain development.

Unicef has identified early learning as one of its top five global priorities for the next five years.

More effort has to be put in early education in the Philippines as only an estimated six of 10 children are enrolled, with one of five communities in the rural areas having no early learning program at all.

"By helping children, we help multiply their chances of becoming better learners and workers," Lopez said.

Community work

Starbucks encourages its patrons to take part in the worthy project by either making a one-time donation or a monthly pledge directly to the SparkHope program or by participating in regular promotions.

In the last promotion, for instance, where patrons got the chance to take home a free, limited edition Starbucks backpack, a portion of the generated fund was channeled to Sparkhope.

A donation of P50 will buy the barangay day care a story book; P100 for a textbook; P300 for a musical instrument; P10,000 to train three day care workers and P40,000 to build a playground.

Starbucks employees have been trained to provide patrons with facts they need to know about the SparkHope program, and the employees are also involved in community work, either as donors or volunteers.

The company itself has given at least P350,000 to support the program, and funds are still coming in.

"It is our hope to eventually have one outlet support one barangay day care facility," Lopez said.

Philippine Airlines returns to Beijing after 16 years

FLAG CARRIER PHILIPPINE AIRLINES yesterday said it would start regular flights to the Chinese capital Beijing on Nov. 11, ending a 16-year hiatus.

PAL will fly three times a week between Manila and Beijing, a company statement said.

The carrier flew to Beijing from 1979 to 1989, when services were suspended for commercial reasons.

PAL said Beijing provides a bigger platform from which to access a growing tourism market.

Beijing will be the Philippine carrier's third destination in China. It already flies to Xiamen and Shanghai.

The service will operate three times a week, with departures from Manila (PR 358) every Tuesday, Friday and Sunday at 7:30 a.m. Arrival at Beijing Capital Airport is at 11:55 a.m.

The return service, PR 359, departs Beijing on the same days at 12:55 p.m. and arrives in Manila at 5:15 p.m.

PAL will deploy widebody Airbus A330-300 aircraft on the first two flight dates, Nov. 11 and 13, to accommodate the expected crush of passengers on the inaugural services.

Later, the airline will switch to the Airbus A320, the reliable workhorse of its Asian regional operations. The new-generation jet seats a total of 150 in a bi-class layout—12 in Mabuhay (business) class and 138 in economy.

When PAL first flew to Peking, as Beijing was known then, in August 1979, the People's Republic was an austere, closed society that had little contact with the outside world. PAL made history then, becoming the first Asian airline to operate scheduled flights to mainland China.

That pioneering service, initially routed via Guangzhou and, later, Xiamen, lasted until June 1989.

Beijing will provide PAL a bigger platform from which to access a burgeoning tourist market. The World Tourism Organization estimates that the number of Chinese traveling overseas will soar from the current 10 million a year to 50 million by 2010, and to 100 million by 2020. This will make China the leading source of tourists worldwide.

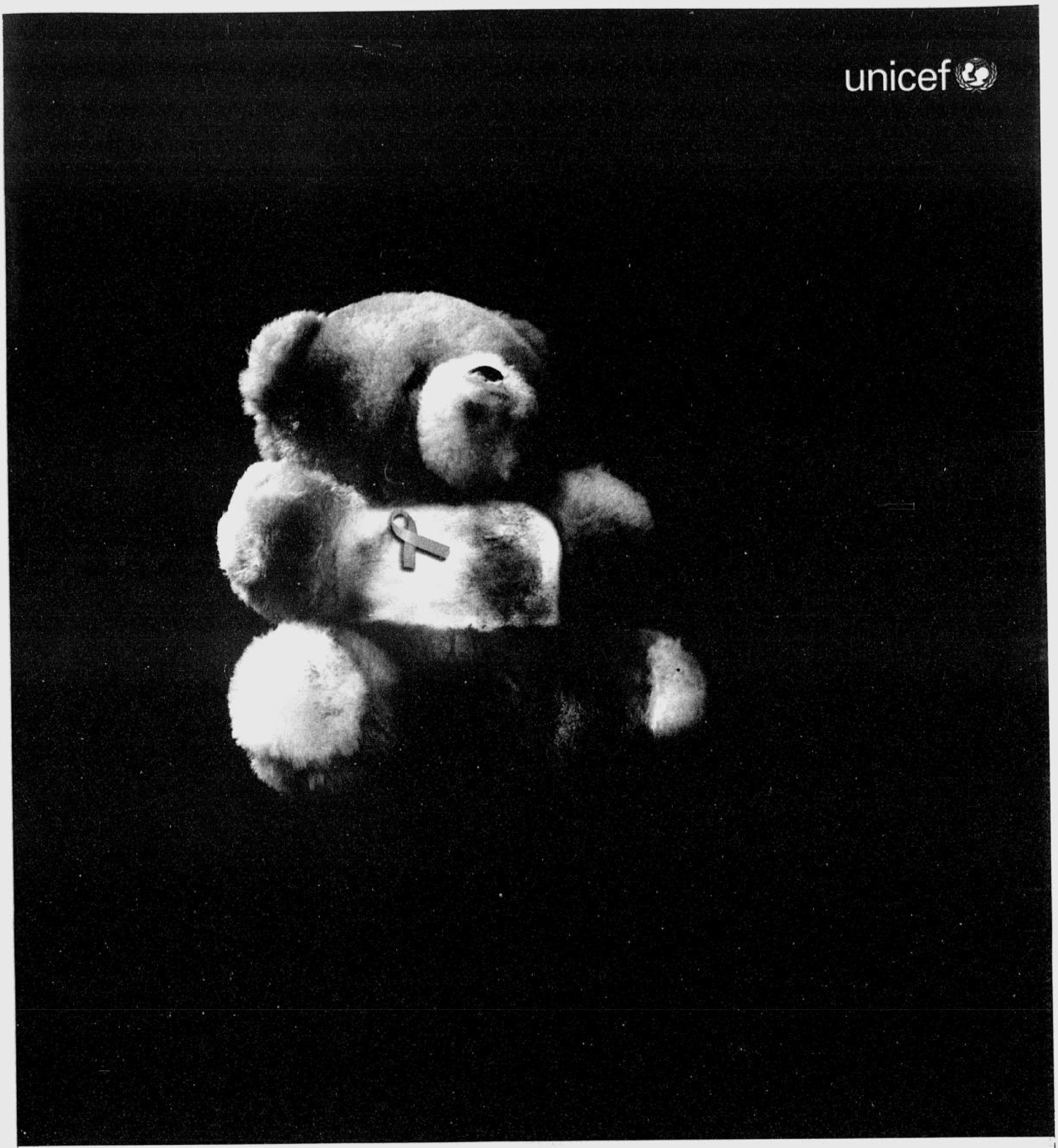
The Philippines has yet to take advantage of this booming traffic. In the first six months of 2005, the country welcomed only 55,426 visitors from China (compared to 328,673 from the top-ranked United States), indicating immense potential for expansion.

With the addition of Beijing, PAL will extend its international network to 26 points in 14 countries and territories. The airline also flies to 19 points in the Philippines. AFP

PAL said Beijing provides a bigger platform from which to access a growing tourism market.

If "only homosexuals and transvestites" get AIDS,
why are more than 6,000 young boys and girls newly-infected with HIV every day?

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



If "only the bad people and those who deserve it" get AIDS,

why are 1,400 innocent children dying from AIDS every day?

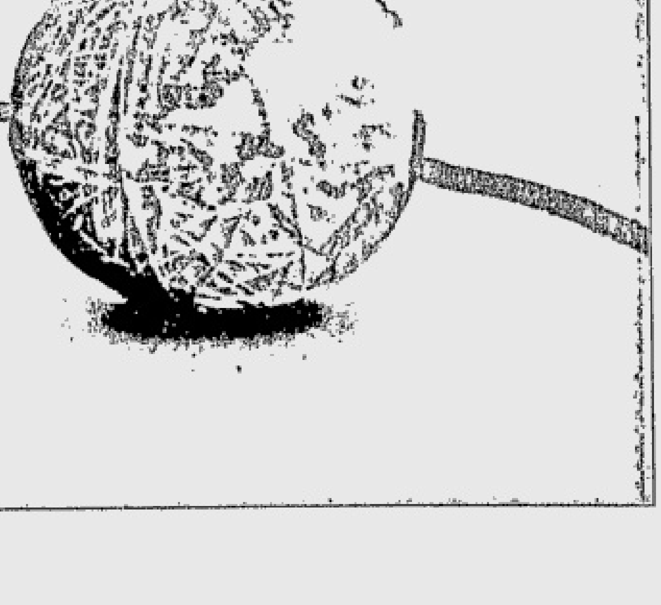
Even before you finish reading this newspaper, HIV/AIDS will have already affected 100 children.

Because every 10 minutes:
- 50 children are infected with HIV
- 40 children lose a parent to AIDS
- 10 children die of AIDS-related illnesses

This means 5 children are newly-diagnosed, 4 are orphaned and 1 dies every 60 seconds. Today, October 25, 2005 marks the launch of the UNICEF & UNAIDS Global Campaign on Children & AIDS.

Be aware now. Learn the facts on HIV/AIDS and fight the ignorance and apathy that puts everyone at risk.

Give your support. Make a difference. Log on to www.unicef.org/philippines



UNITE FOR CHILDREN UNITE AGAINST AIDS

B8

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8978425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8978425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2005

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of 8-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays — 12:00 noon — Day before publication
Sundays — 12:00 noon — every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD CLINIC COMP LAB
Most STD Treated W/Oral Medications
T 8175071 Matrinco Bldg
2178 P.Tamo Mkti City

GARMA CLINIC
VD SPECIALIST
VD GONORRHEA, WARTS SYPHILIS, STD, HERPES
ADULT CIRCUMCISION
Painless, Bloodless
BOLITAS, SKIN DISEASES
ALLERGIES, VAGINAL REPAIR,
RE-CURRENT UTI
ALMORANAS, ERECTION PROBLEMS
INFERTILITY/IMPOTENCE
MOLE/CYST/SCAR REMOVAL
KELOID/PAP SMEAR
COMPLETE LABORATORY
Garma Bldg., No. 8 Purdue St., Cubao, Q.C.
OPEN 9 AM to 5 PM MON. to SAT.
TEL. NOS. 4392704 / 9139474

PERSONAL

COSMETOLOGY

WHITENING CAPS P1800
PINK Nips / Lips /Cheeks
Cream P800 09189235216

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A'A MAID & YAYA 4306920

All arnd Maid Yaya 4399290

HI PAY MAID, YAYA 732-67-50

Direct Maid Yaya Int'l Cook 7289060

Good Maid Yaya Boy 995-7034

Help Agency 5328376 • 5321947

H'WORKING MAIDS 421-3828

Need Maids 0921-2781017 / 4328194

Trusted Maids Yaya Cgiver 7572089

WE HAVE STAY-IN & PART TIME MAIDS DRIVERS, ETC. FOR FIL & FOREIGN CLIENTS # 5529245 / 7295838

YAYA COOK H'MAID 8957507

LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833•LIPAT

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

L-BAHAY 8383742/09282315360

OPEN&CLOSE VANS TEL#731-8549

•1200/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMM'L/RESDL

MARIKINA

New2styComl cg 3M 9487112

QUEZON CITY

★ KATIPUNAN EXT ★
LA315 to 3048 CommlMainRd
P9500-10T/m² 0918-9235216

HOUSE & LOT

LOT OWNERS!!!
BUILD UR HOUSE, BLDG,
WHSE NO DOWN - BANK LOAN
10 YRS IN-HOUSE FINANCING
TESS 6469506 • 09209086272

MAKATI

Lots, H&L C5 nr Fort
L4M-13M Nr McKinley Hills 4-5br
10% DP or 3Yrs No Int or No DP
10mins Fr. Ayala 0917-8313228

MANDALUYONG

NEAR SHAW BLVD
BnewThse/3stry/3br/3-4tb
maids1-2grgeP3.645M8903461

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

MARIKINA

Bnew 4br 3tb Jacuzi 3M 9487112

QUEZON CITY

Nr Visayas Av Gloria IV Subd
5BR 5T&B 4554123/4566854

BULACAN

Nr Grotto 250T 09216507801

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

10%DP Lipat Agad!
1.3M-Up 3Yrs. No Int 2-4BR
C5 Near Fort / Mkti 0917-8169840

MAKATI CONDO
RENT / SALE : Ready to move-in
843-0921 / 887-5318
www.condo.com.ph

MAKATI PRIME TOWER
FA345QM 1.15reg contact 09215473238

•ORIENTAL GARDENS•
Start @ 1.9M or 10,000/mo RFO
www.orientalgardenstower.com
524-2760/0917-8248178 Edwin

Oriental Gardens Makati 45.5m² RFO 2.7&up Roselyn 0920-3843962

MANILA

Bay Gardens Roxas Blvd 20% D/P to move-in 2 to 4BRS 1st Class 0920-9602940 www.manilabaycondo.com

NR LA SALLE TAFT
BnewThse/3stry/3br/3-4tb
maids1-2grgeP3.965M8903461

MANDALUYONG

CONDO, BNEW, 09192189817

PARANAQUE

Chateau De Bay Condo
171.76m² incl carpark fully furn
P30T rent P4M sale neg
0921-5799456 Aileen

QUEZON CITY

Cubao P1.5M 10%DP 5yrs to Pay 0% Int move-in 9126976

Sct Tuazon 1.75M 4163161

SAN JUAN

NEAR GREENHILLS
BnewThse/3stry/3br/3-4tb
maids 1-2 grge P3.645Mup 8903461

LOT

KALOOCAN

313m² Nadurata 09178935879

MANDALUYONG

★ACROPOLIS MAND.★
NR. MAKATI 204m²-up 13,826/m² CSH OR 133T DP x 4MOS. 6609372

MARIKINA

1400m² M. Hghts TEL 8427892

PARANAQUE

100,230, 664m² nr Rodriguez St., Moonwalk, Pque 09206540954

QUEZON CITY

GRAND VILLAS Top Row w/view back ATENEO LOTS hse & lots avble 426-5050 920-1832 • 0919-8212235

★KATIPUNAN Ext Resl lot nr UP Ateneo 204 to 408m² P8,500/m² 0918-9235216★

RIZAL

700m² Angono TEL 8427892

BULACAN

800m² Sn Jse Del Mnte TEL 8427892

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Park II 634-1212

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that the following persons are no longer connected with **C.F. SHARP CREW MANAGEMENT, INC.**

1.	Adrian E. Albano II	Effective 30-September-05
2.	Jocelyn L. Endeno	Effective 30-September-05
3.	Ana Lycel J. Fabi	Effective 30-September-05
4.	Alfredo D. Escuin	Effective 30-September-05
5.	Regina N. Vicente	Effective 30-September-05
6.	Josefino M. Roan, Jr.	Effective 30-September-05
7.	Helen S. Santos	Effective 30-September-05
8.	Angelo P. Carandang	Effective 30-September-05
9.	Manuel S. Perez, Jr.	Effective 30-September-05
10.	Erico G. Punzalan	Effective 30-September-05
11.	Rosvell S. Balbin	Effective 23-September-05

All transactions entered into by the persons stated above for and in behalf of the company from the said dates shall no longer be honored.

(For POEA purposes only)

(PDI - Oct. 25, 2005)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FARM/FISHPEN/RAWLANDS

Res'l Farm Lot 3.2hac Naic Cavite 4554123/4566854

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

QUEZON CITY

BURGUNDY PLAZA KATIPUNAN Q.C. FRNT ATENEO FA50 m² (res) 75&110m² (Ideal for SPA, GYM, CALL CENTER) 9289541 / 7313031

HOUSE

CAVITE

Lower Moonlight 5610197

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

CTL8 1BR FURN 11T 9299835

MANILA

1BR FAURA 5642622

QUEZON CITY

1BR Across Ateneo 9288004

FF Studio Garden Hts Condo E. Rodriguez Ave. Near St. Lukes 7810-0788

APARTMENT

MANILA

2Bdr Grg 5636206-5610107

840 P.Noval NR UST Tel 7313035 7361925 9280541

PARANAQUE

2LRG BR 3TB GARAGE NEW PAINT NO WATER PROBLEM P6500 MONTHLY CALL 8258072

ROOM & BOARD

El Grande Inn 8257624
BF Pque P2001 Tel8276345

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

ROOM & BOARD

Windsor Inn Maceda St nr 7-11 Dimasalang, Manila 7118679, 7836781(24hrs)

LOAN & MORTGAGE

1.4% MONTHLY 8976644-46
LAS PINAS 8054326 / 6342
QUEZON CITY 3730239-40
CAINTA/PASIG 2401300/3500
LLOYDS FINANCING CORP.

BUSNES .DCTOR 524-3197 0919-3227420

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

MALATE MLA 526-0048/49

Quirino Ave nr Minda FA285 P75T com'l grd 7312110/89

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

02 CRV PRICE 685TH T-8990215

02Civic VTI M/T 465T 4361294

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Affordable Rent a Car Hiace, Vios, Corolla Low Rates 0920-0518097

CARS INT'L. RENTAL SRVS.
U-Drive Cars & Vans
896-0856/8900915

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-0206

MARIAN CARS•VANS•BRDAL 8969956•8957247

Cheap Van 9330311;9348411

•FRANCIS CAR RENTAL•
ALL CARS U/DRIVE W/DRIVER
TEL. 8334476 CEL 09108085176

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333082

REVO w/driver 0272821

TOYCO CARS SUV VANS Rental
Dly Wkly Monthly Rental
Mnl. 8023021-22 CEBU (032)
3451802 DAVAO (082)2358375

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

ABC OPEN 24 HRS.
HI-ACE•STAREX•CRV
L300•URVAN•REVO
NEW CARS/SUV/4X4/BUSES
MLA:536-8822•303-9789
Q.C.:426-2278•426-4084

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CAR T-8990215

CAR LOAN

1% Auto Easy 5344441

1% AUTOLOAN 788-0361

1% Car Lending 656-0140 United Tree Car Loan Corp.

1% CARLOAN 373-6519

1% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1% w/out taking car 5315577

1% w/out taking car 7262780

1.5% ABC Car Line 5221001

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% easy carloan 7015352/55

1.5% w/o taking Car 7220942-43

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650074/75

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/oTaking Car 0066630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 8950454

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

16T UP NEW COMPL IMPTD 7767507

PETS

DOG TRAINER 0919-7210020

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646693 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

WE BUY DEFECT TV / A/CON / ETC. 7413178

PUBLIC NOTICES

BIDDING

PUBLIC NOTICES

BIDDING

PUBLIC NOTICES

BIDDING

PUBLIC NOTICES

BIDDING

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

For Financial Advisory Services

The Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) intends to hire a financial adviser to assist in the preparation of its Portfolio of Non-Performing Accounts (NPAs) for eventual sale for an eight (8) month contract with an approved budget in the amount of Philippine Pesos: Thirteen Million (PhP 13,000,000.00) for base fees which is exclusive of budget for transaction success fees, other fees and expenses for legal advisers, local appraisers and printing/copying firms, and out-of-pocket expenses.

In this regard, DBP is inviting interested local and foreign firms to submit letter of interest to participate in the public bidding for financial advisory services to assist DBP in preparing for its NPA portfolio sale.

The financial adviser must be a firm with at least three (3) years of experience in providing consulting/advisory and implementation assistance to holders of portfolios of distressed assets. To further determine the eligibility of interested financial advisers, they shall submit certain legal, technical and financial documents. List of said required documents and Letter of Interest form may be obtained by interested parties from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. not later than October 27, 2005 at the Secretariat, DBP Bids & Awards Committee (BAC), 6th Floor, DBP Building, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue cor. Makati Avenue, Makati City. Interested parties are invited to a Briefing on the Eligibility Requirements on October 28, 2005, 10: 00 a.m. at the Suite 5, DBP Executive Lounge.

Interested parties shall submit five (5) copies of Letter of Interest (LOI) together with all required documents for eligibility to the Secretariat of the DBP Bids & Awards Committee as mentioned above not later than 3:00 p.m. of November 4, 2005, or next working day, if November 4, 2005 is declared a public holiday.

Invitations to Bid for the financial advisory services will be issued to eligible bidders on November 11, 2005. Eligible bidders interested to participate in the selection process and to submit proposals will be required to secure the bidding documents for a non-refundable fee of Philippine Pesos: Ten Thousand (PhP10,000.00) in the form of cash, manager's check or cashier's check from the DBP BAC Secretariat, not later than 3:00 p.m. of November 14, 2005.

Pre-bidding Conference shall be scheduled on November 15, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. Eligible bidders shall be required to submit technical and financial proposals simultaneously not later than 3:00 p.m. of November 22, 2005. Evaluation of the eligible bidders shall make use of the quality-cost method under RA 9184 wherein the technical proposals shall be evaluated first and only the financial proposals of the financial advisers who meet the minimum technical rating shall be opened. Eligible bidders shall be ranked in descending order based on the combined numerical ratings of their technical and financial proposals to be given weights of 80% and 20%, respectively.

DBP reserves the right to reject any and all bids, annul the bidding process, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

DBP Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI - Oct. 18 & 25, 2005)

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
WE BUY USED
SWISS WATCHES
SECONDO 2/F GLORIETTA 1 (8940282
SWISS WATCH LOANS
LOW 5% INTEREST
AGENCIA DE MAKATI 889-7956

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8884040 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that EEI Corp Official Receipt No. 197076-78 reported lost on 10/13/2005

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Buy/Invest California Forclosures MrNelsonmanila@AOL.com 12%/mo

RTW CONSIGN 0917-8830002

"LOOKING FOR A PART TIME BUSINESS" Earn up to P20k/mo 376-2644 & 42

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

•ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN•
Minimum 3yrs exp on TV, DVD, Radio. Knowledge of Computer Repair is an advantage Very Good Salary Package. Willing to work outside Metro Mla
Call 09156798677

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
A Global Corporation with a Global Mindset and a Filipino Heart

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

ITB NO.: 08-106-2005

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project slated hereunder

Name of Projet : Supply & Delivery of 1.5 million decks of Playing Cards
Approved Budget : One Million Eight Hundred Thousand U.S. Dollars (US$ 1,800,000.00) (Note: CIF - Port of Manila)
Source of Fund : Internally Funded.

Only suppliers duly registered with PAGCOR may be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the Bid Documents available for issuance from October 21, 2005 to December 7, 2005 at the BAC Secretariat Unit, PPD-Corporate upon payment of a non-refundable fee of *Fifty Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Seven & 50/100 Pesos (Php 50,287.50)*. In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretary handling the project.

The schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
Pre-bid Conference	November 8, 2005 (10 am)
Submission of Bids (Envelope 1, 2, & 3)	December 8, 2005 (2 pm)
Opening of Bids (Envelope 1 & 2)	December 8, 2005 (2 pm onwards)
Opening of Bids (Envelope 3)	January 13, 2006 (2 pm)

PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department, 2nd Floor, PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila at telephone nos. 523-0577 or 524-3911.

(Sgd.) RENE C. FIGUEROA
Chairperson, BAC 2

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

Rush! Tourism Grad 9263045 •4330095•09189236754

Sales Secretary 687-7009

MALE/FEMALE

Earn DOLLARS being a BUSINESS EXECUTIVE. College Graduate 09196050890

Masseur/Masseus 914-1057

ERRATUM

In the Board of Investment Notice of **INTERWEB MEDIA CONNECTION, INC.** published in the Classified Section of Philippine Daily Inquirer last October 21, 2005, the name of the applicant was erroneously printed as Interweb Media Conection, Inc.

Our apologies.

PerfectLogistics Phils., Inc.
Marcos hi-way, Cainta Rizal (beside San Bonido Sch)

BIGGEST SALE EVER!!!
Starts on:October 8 and ONWARDS
- SPECIAL Arrangement for OFWs SEAMANS, PILOT BALIK BAYAN.

NEW ARRIVAL EVERYDAY
PAJERO 2.8 – P560,000.00
PAJERO 2.5 – P420,000.00
HI - ACE 3.0 – P350,000.00
DELICA 2.5 – P220,000.00
BIGHORN 3.1 – P520,000.00

And MANY MORE like
- Land Cruiser VX, Toyota Granvia 3.0 II,
- Estima Lucida, Emina, RVR
- Mit. SpaceGear 2 8 / 2 5
- Mit. Chariot Turbo Intercooler
- Ford Explorer, Ford Freda, Ford Frendee,
- Nissan Serena, Caravan, Isuzu M.U.
- Largo / Homy

- With FREE REGISTRATION
- at LOWEST price EVER
- FINANCING Available
- W/ 1yr Warranty in Conversion
- 1 mo. Warranty in Engine & Transmission

No Hidden Cost
In Good Running Condition

For more Info, pls. Contact
Tel. Nos. 249-1818 Telefax: 249-1831
0917-8579153 Fred 0926-8911125 Emil
0916-2069813 Rey 0918-5886075 Jun

CALL POEA
24-HOUR HOTLINES
722-1144 or 722-1155

KDDI unveils phones with chat

TOKYO—KDDI CORP., JAPAN'S SECOND-largest mobile operator, on Monday unveiled a lineup of new phones with the ability to watch short segments of digital television programs and communicate with a group via text or voice.

KDDI said the autumn/winter line of phones for its main mobile phone service, au (pronounced AY-U), was meant to capture customers by diversifying its offerings at a reasonable service price.

KDDI's mobile phone business has enjoyed strong demand in recent years thanks to aggressive pricing plans, attractive phones and innovative services.

The latest lineup will include three new models with a service that would let users send text messages interlaced with photos to up to four others in a feature that would resemble instant messaging chats on personal computers.

The service, called "Hello Messenger", also allows users to communicate with a group via voice, walkie-talkie-style, using the technology known as push-to-talk made popular by US operator Nextel Communications Inc.

KDDI emphasized the new service's chat-like elements, saying it was not the same as push-to-talk even though it uses the technology.

"We created this service because we didn't think Japanese consumers would go for straight push-to-talk," he said, adding that it deliberately did not offer a flat service price for the feature, so owners could try out the service without committing to a fixed amount of usage.

KDDI also said one of the phones made by Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd. would also allow users to watch short segments of digital television programs with a program guide, sub-titles and an ability to record.

The Sanyo phone is expected to enter the market in December while the two other phones, made by Kyocera Corp. and Toshiba Corp., will start selling in late November. *Reuters*

Asian shares drift down

SINGAPORE—ASIAN STOCK MARkets drifted down yesterday as investors waited for quarterly earnings to roll in, but some support was provided by strength in the dollar and lower oil prices as Hurricane Wilma missed US oil facilities.

Tokyo's Nikkei average fell 0.7 percent but shares in Shin-Etsu Chemical Co. Ltd., the world's largest silicon wafer maker, ended up 2 percent after it posted a 20 percent rise in first-half profit and raised its full-year forecast.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index was down 0.8 percent at 2 p.m. yesterday.

"Investors are a bit jittery ahead of corporate earnings for fear of more volatility in the markets," said Louis Wong, research director at Phillip Securities in Hong Kong.

Investors were looking forward to the Hong Kong market debut of China Construction Bank on Thursday after strong demand for its initial public offering.

Japanese electronics maker Pioneer Corp. slumped 3.3 percent after the firm said on Friday it expected to make a record net loss this business year due to sliding prices of DVD recorders and plasma TVs.

Computers-to-chips firm NEC fell nearly 5 percent on a newspaper report it would post a fall in operating profit for the current business year rather than its forecast gain.

The US market had provided no clear lead on Friday.

The Dow average fell 0.64 percent after disappointing earnings from heavy equipment maker Caterpillar, but the technology-laced Nasdaq Composite Index gained 0.68 percent after better-than-expected results from Web-search company Google Inc., whose shares jumped 12.1 percent.

MSCI's index of non-Japan Asian shares was down 0.5 percent at 2 p.m. The dollar was around 115.80 yen, near its late New York level on Friday and close to a two-year high, which provided help to selected exporters' shares.

Traders said rising US interest rates were particularly attractive to Japanese investors, stuck with low yields at home.

US light crude oil futures dropped below $60 after Hurricane Wilma spared storm-battered US oil facilities in the Gulf of Mexico.

Oil for December delivery was at $59.90 a barrel, down 73 cents from Friday's close and some 15 percent below the record high of $70.85 a barrel struck in late August.

"The market has been sold off after the hurricane headed for Florida instead of the Gulf Coast. So oil production is not affected," said Tony Nunan at Mitsubishi Corp. in Tokyo. *Reuters*

US firms see rising prices

WASHINGTON—US BUSINESSES ARE FINDing it easier to pass along higher costs to consumers and plan to keep pushing prices up in the coming months, according to a survey of businesses released on Monday that also showed steady economic growth despite recent hurricanes.

"Our survey respondents are telling us they have been—and will be—raising prices more aggressively than in the past," Eaton Corp. Chief Economist Jim Meil said, referring to a survey by the National Association for Business Economics.

The survey of 101 businesses found 40 percent had raised prices in the third quarter, compared to only 2 percent that had cut them. The resulting net rising index of 38 percent—the difference between the two—was the second highest in the survey's 24-year history.

In addition, 46 percent of the firms said they expected to push prices up over the next three months, in contrast to only 4 percent who said they were likely to lower them.

The current survey and one conducted after the close of the second quarter also showed businesses were having an easier time of making price increases stick than around the turn of the year.

Despite powerful blows from hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the survey found US economic growth remained fairly stable, with a net rising index of demand growth moving up a couple notches to 45 percent from the last survey in July.

US gross domestic product expanded at a 3.3 percent annual rate in the second quarter. Economists polled by Reuters expect it expanded at a 3.5 percent pace in the third quarter.

The NABE survey found industry profit margins had widened in the July-September period and called the 37 percent share reporting rising margins "unusually large."

While employment conditions remained healthy over the past quarter, the group said outlook for new hiring over the coming six months weakened significantly. *Reuters*

Proton shares dip on car talks

KUALA LUMPUR—SHARES OF MALAYSIA'S national car maker Proton fell 3.6 percent Monday morning amid concerns that a proposed alliance with German auto giant Volkswagen AG may collapse, traders said.

Proton shares fell to 8.05 ringgit at the end of morning trade, down 0.30 ringgit from their close Friday.

Traders said news that Proton was eager to acquire two basic vehicle designs from Volkswagen sparked concerns that Proton may not be successful in selling an equity stake to Europe's largest car maker.

Traders said it made no sense for Proton to buy the Volkswagen vehicle platforms since the two companies were already in talks for an equity tie-up that would eventually lead to a technical collaboration.

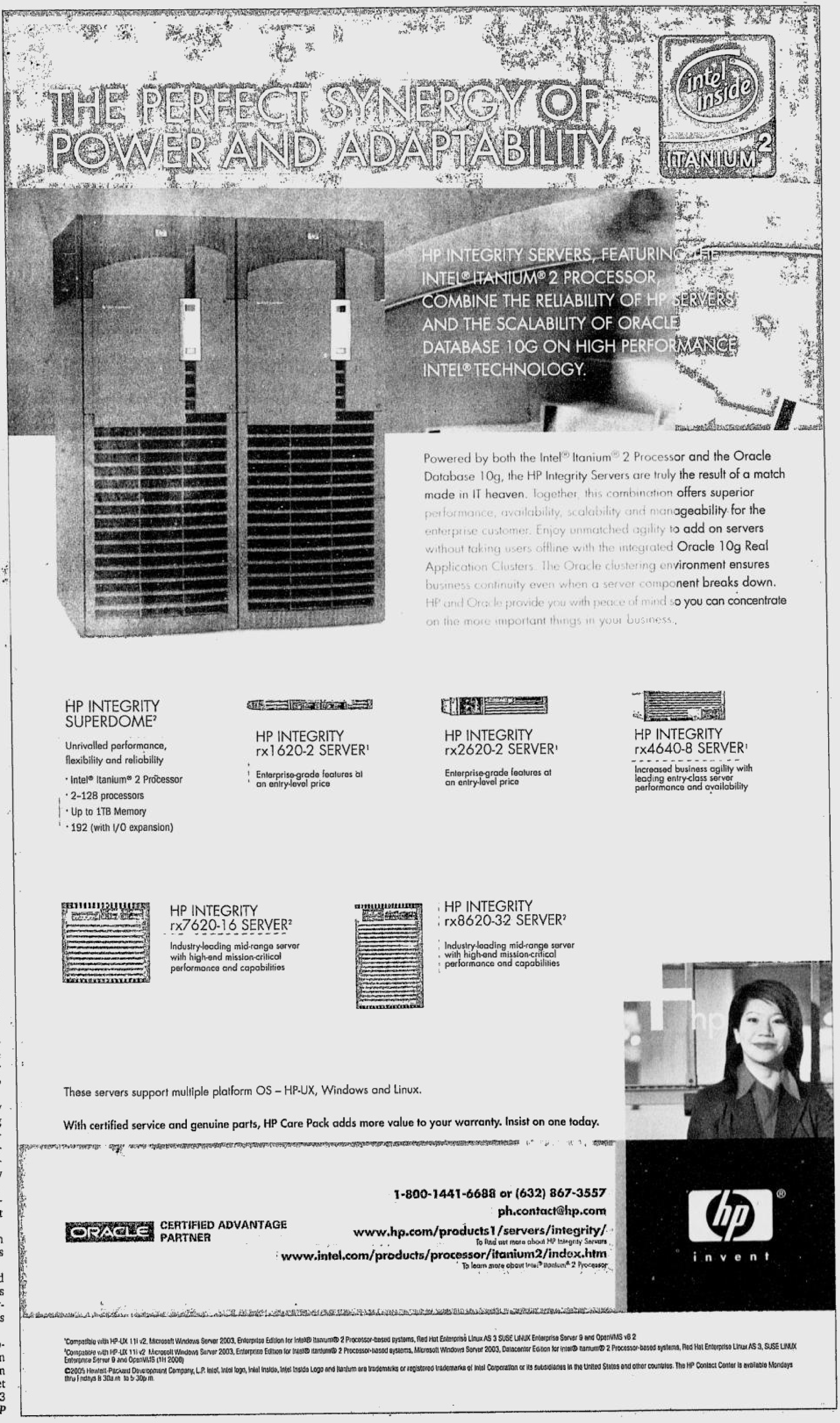
The Edge business weekly on Monday quoted an unnamed Proton official as saying that the Malaysian car producer was interested in buying platforms for the popular mid-sized Passat saloon car and the Sharan multi-purpose vehicle in a rush to produce new models to curb falling sales.

The magazine said Proton is hoping to acquire the platform for the old 1996 Passat model, which is shared by the Audi A4 car.

The report didn't say how much Proton would pay for the platforms. Proton officials weren't immediately available for comment.

Faced with a shrinking market share and growing foreign competition, Proton has been searching since last year for a new foreign alliance following the withdrawal of its longtime Japanese partner Mitsubishi.

Proton has long enjoyed government protection in the form of high tariffs on foreign cars. But as tariffs are being whittled down under a regional free trade pact, its market share has dwindled from 57 percent in 1993 to around 30 percent in June. *AP*


THE PERFECT SYNERGY OF POWER AND ADAPTABILITY.

intel inside ITANIUM 2

HP INTEGRITY SERVERS, FEATURING THE INTEL® ITANIUM® 2 PROCESSOR, COMBINE THE RELIABILITY OF HP SERVERS AND THE SCALABILITY OF ORACLE DATABASE 10G ON HIGH PERFORMANCE INTEL® TECHNOLOGY.

Powered by both the Intel® Itanium® 2 Processor and the Oracle Database 10g, the HP Integrity Servers are truly the result of a match made in IT heaven. Together, this combination offers superior performance, availability, scalability and manageability for the enterprise customer. Enjoy unmatched agility to add on servers without taking users offline with the integrated Oracle 10g Real Application Clusters. The Oracle clustering environment ensures business continuity even when a server component breaks down. HP and Oracle provide you with peace of mind so you can concentrate on the more important things in your business.

HP INTEGRITY SUPERDOME²
Unrivalled performance, flexibility and reliability
- Intel® Itanium® 2 Processor
- 2-128 processors
- Up to 1TB Memory
- 192 (with I/O expansion)

HP INTEGRITY rx1620-2 SERVER¹
Enterprise-grade features at an entry-level price

HP INTEGRITY rx2620-2 SERVER¹
Enterprise-grade features at an entry-level price

HP INTEGRITY rx4640-8 SERVER¹
Increased business agility with leading entry-class server performance and availability

HP INTEGRITY rx7620-16 SERVER²
Industry-leading mid-range server with high-end mission-critical performance and capabilities

HP INTEGRITY rx8620-32 SERVER²
Industry-leading mid-range server with high-end mission-critical performance and capabilities

These servers support multiple platform OS – HP-UX, Windows and Linux.

With certified service and genuine parts, HP Care Pack adds more value to your warranty. Insist on one today.

ORACLE CERTIFIED ADVANTAGE PARTNER

1-800-1441-6688 or (632) 867-3557
ph.contact@hp.com
www.hp.com/products1/servers/integrity/
To find out more about HP Integrity Servers
www.intel.com/products/processor/itanium2/index.htm
To learn more about Intel® Itanium® 2 Processor

hp invent

¹Compatible with HP-UX 11i v2, Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition for Intel® Itanium® 2 Processor-based systems, Red Hat Enterprise Linux AS 3 SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 9 and OpenVMS v8.2
²Compatible with HP-UX 11i v2, Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition for Intel® Itanium® 2 Processor-based systems, Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Datacenter Edition for Intel® Itanium® 2 Processor-based systems, Red Hat Enterprise Linux AS 3, SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 9 and OpenVMS (1H 2006)
©2005 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside Logo and Itanium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. The HP Contact Center is available Mondays thru Fridays 8:30a.m. to 5:30p.m.

makro

Free Membership • Easy Membership

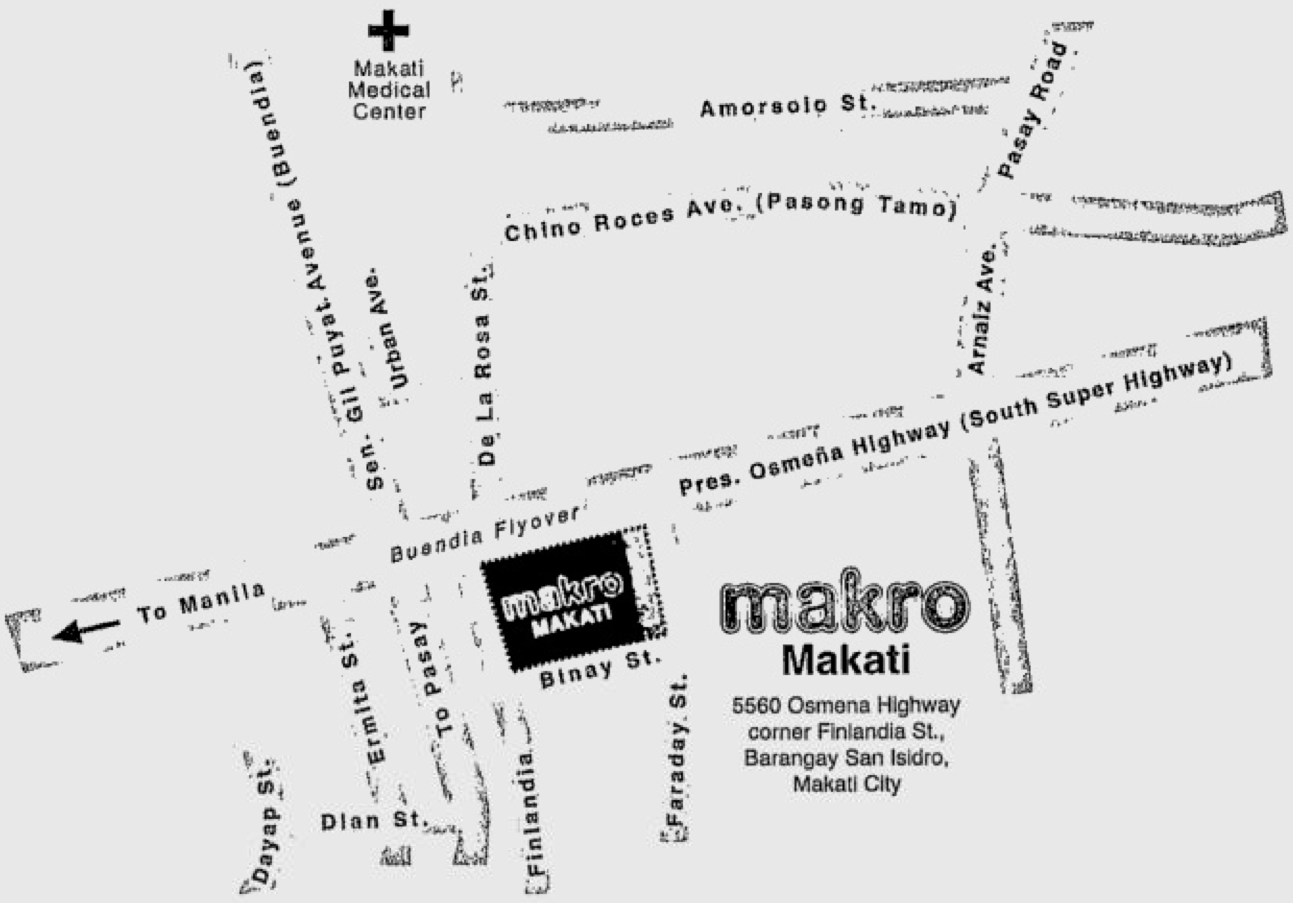
OPENS NEW STORE IN MAKATI

Wholesale Buys Rising up Bringing New Business and New Opportunities into the City

Despite the economic crisis and other seemingly insurmountable challenges, MAKRO opens another store in one of the most competitive business districts in the country. Aside from raising the bar of healthy competition up another notch, MAKRO's presence in Makati as with other MAKRO branches in the country has proven to be very beneficial for the consumers and the city as well. Short of saying, with MAKRO, everybody is a winner!

October 25, 2005 is a great day of celebration. Quality, convenience and income goes up as prices of commodities go down. That is what usually happens with MAKRO around. It's all about implementing business models and practices that achieve assured steady supply at highly competitive prices. And now, MAKRO brings the same opportunities to Makati. Expect more good things to come!

Congratulations to MAKRO and to all! ➚


Makati Medical Center
Amorsolo St.
Pasay Road
Chino Roces Ave. (Pasong Tamo)
Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue (Buendia)
Urban Ave.
De La Rosa St.
Arnaiz Ave.
Pres. Osmeña Highway (South Super Highway)
Buendia Flyover
To Manila
makro MAKATI
Binay St.
Ermita St.
To Pasay
Finlandia
Faraday St.
Dayap St.
Dian St.

makro
Makati
5560 Osmena Highway
corner Finlandia St.,
Barangay San Isidro,
Makati City

MESSAGES

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to Pilipinas Makro, Inc. for the opening of MAKRO Makati, it's 14th branch in the country. Today is a significant occasion not just for MAKRO but for the citizens of Makati as well.

From the consumer side, there will be more choices for sari-sari store owners while enjoying the privilege of getting merchandise at more affordable prices. Increased accessibility to this MAKRO branch will also give impetus to new investments, as more enterprising residents are encouraged by the lower transportation cost to venture into the retail business.

In terms of its impact on employment, MAKRO's presence in our city generates new jobs for the people of Makati. As MAKRO Makati becomes fully operational, it will provide more job opportunities, especially for our residents. Given the subsequent increase of the city's employment rate, business opportunities, and revenue collections it will help bring about, MAKRO is truly an essential "partner in progress" of the City of Makati.

Congratulations, and welcome to Makati!

Jejomar C. Binay
Mayor, Makati

Mabuhay!

Today is a great day of celebration. MAKRO opens a new branch in Makati, and the City of Makati welcomes another partner in progress.

MAKRO's presence in Makati will greatly help bridge the barrier between the haves and have-nots by way of employment opportunities and affordability of prices. The influx of revenue to be generated from its business shall also provide a boost to the city government's delivery of social and structural services that will greatly benefit those who have less in life.

MAKRO in Makati, with its reasonably priced wide selections makes it the best shopping destination for sari-sari storeowners and those who are on a budget. And because of its proximity, consumers no longer have to go far to shop. They get more value for money as shopping has become more convenient for them. It's like shopping at high-end stores offering even lower than Divisoria prices.

Congratulations and more power!

Ernesto Mercado
Vice Mayor, Makati

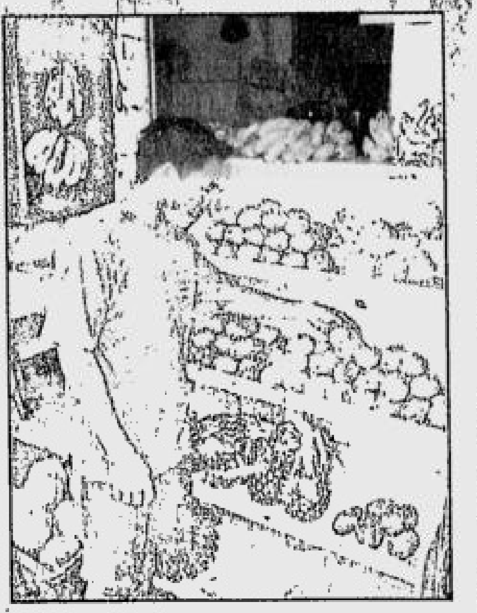
MAKRO means business when it comes to quality and service. Our business models accomplish this task in the most cost-effective way. This benefit extends to suppliers as well. Our suppliers deliver to our stores in bulk, thus saving time and money and enhances the efficiency of our supply chain. This is a great advantage in the face of fuel and toll price increases. Being in strategic locations, availability and delivery of supplies is assured at all times. Makro also provides wholesale prices even if bought in small quantities.

With each Makro branch that opens, more small businesses are supported. Makro also assists them in improving their business skills through the Negosyo Sessions program. They are taught how to improve their merchandising skills, do simple accounting, calculate margins and other lessons that help them make more money and grow their business.

With Makro Makati, the objective is to be the strongest retailer and HORECA (Hotel, Restaurant and Caterer) base for areas around Makati, Pasay and Buendia. It also reaches out to the office segment in Makati to supply a substantial portion of office supplies. The store is world class with low, low prices.

And with the Free and Easy membership, special offers are made more accessible. They just have to only fill out an application form and present a valid identification such as a credit card and they're all set to enjoy shopping at Makro.

Bunny Khurana
President & Managing Director, Makro



Makro: Improving the Business of Small Businesses

Adopting Business Models that promote Social Responsibility

As Makro grows and adds more branches, so does its family circle of farmers, fisher folk, poultry and meat raisers that greatly benefit from its guidance and standards of quality and assured bulk buying. And because quality and steady supply is maintained, **prices remain low** compared to its competitors. Because of this, many sari-sari storeowners are now loyal shoppers of MAKRO. And now Makro Makati will show the same concern to the citizens of the city.

Free & easy membership is now available for those who want to join the Makro family. With this membership, they will have access to limitless perks and freebies. **Smaller packs** are now available that is also the ideal size for personal consumption. Owners of small businesses can now improve their business skills through the Negosyo Sessions Program.

MAKRO continuously grows with the Makati branch. And with it, the benefits for the supplier, consumer and the city where Makro made a new home also increases.

Watch out. We're bringing in more benefits very soon. ↗

From the Source Straight to Our Stores
makro
Farm Fresh, Low-priced Goods

Thank you for constructing Makro in the quickest time possible
130 days for a 2-level store.

PLUMBING WORKS INC.
Tels. 453-0487/88 • 456-7703/04

DONJO Co Construction Inc.
Tels. 747-2868

NEW KANLAON CONSTRUCTION, INC.
Tels. 636-5200 • 636-4700

CENTURY IRON WORKS, INC.
Tels. 363-9365 • 364-4219 • 363-9370

Design Development Industries
Tels. 930-6837

CUT & PLOT ADVERTISING
Tels. 323-9476 • 323-9059 • 323-5856

4E BUILDERS CORPORATION
ENGINEER • DESIGNER • CONTRACTOR
Tels. 9621628 / 9621567 / 9617947

VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR CORP.
Tels. 838-90910 to 95

BIOSAFE
Tels. 749-5232 • 712-0951 • 412-8477

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the following sponsors.

UNIONBANK
www.unionbankph.com

BDO BANCO DE ORO
www.bancodeoro.com.ph

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
www.bpi.com.ph

Special Participation of RMS Printing • Tel. 531-2738

Congratulations to the Philippine Internet Commerce Society on its 4th E-Commerce Congress and Exhibit

October 25-26, 2005

Grand Ballroom, Hotel Intercontinental Manila, Makati City, Philippines

Message

Who says the world is round? The world has now become more horizontal as people are suddenly finding themselves liberated to "plug and play" with everyone else.

Internet Technology has helped 'flatten' the playing field and has now empowered the individual to collaborate and compete globally. It has opened up new opportunities and challenges which make us all wonder where we all fit in this global competition.

This two-day event will allow access to various new information and experiences that will aid you in surviving in this new competitive and open world enabled by internet technologies and the electronic commerce highway. You will learn how all these enabling tools can be put together in new and exciting ways to create products, build communities and maximize profits.

A highlight of the event is the 3rd Annual SME IT Excellence Awards. Now on its third year, the Philippine Internet Society is committed to honor deserving small and medium enterprises who have embraced information technology in the conduct of their business.

Join us as we all learn how to flatten the world through technology!

MARY ANNE D. TOLENTINO
President, Philippine Internet Commerce Society

Who says the World is Round? Flattening the World through Technology

The Philippine Internet Commerce Society (PICS) is a non-stock non-profit organization undertaking activities to advance and develop, enhance, facilitate Internet and electronic commerce in the Philippines. It also advocates for Internet and electronic commerce.

Today's Business Wants Results Yesterday.

Take A Peek At What's Possible.

Track your entire inventory immediately over your Virtual Private Network (VPN) from the stockroom and all other branches with PLDT Shops.work

Get wireless VPN connectivity, Internet browsing, LAN access and email while on the move anywhere in the country and around the world with PLDT WeRoam

PLDT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

CONTACT US FOR MORE TECHNO MUST
THAT LEAVES THE COMPETITION IN YOUR DUST

W. www.pldt.com.ph/for_business.html E. bizsol@pldt.com.ph T. (632) 874-7474, 1-800-100-BIZSOL F. (632) 844-8654, 1-800-888-0999

Our Vision/Mission

"We envision a Totally-Connected Philippines through Internet Protocol (TCP-IP). Towards this end, we will serve as the voice of the Private sector Internet Community by

a. supporting and furthering the development of integrated Internet infrastructure and making this as widely available as possible, in order to promote all forms of electronic and mobile commerce; and

b. encouraging the leveraging and use of existing infrastructure and technologies by all businesses, particularly by small and medium enterprise (SME's) in order to energize private enterprise in the Philippines."

In 1997, with the emergence of a new transnational medium known as the Internet, the Philippine Internet Commerce Society (PICS), a private non-stock, non-profit organization, was founded with the following mission:

" To.support and further the the development of integrated Internet infrastructure and making this as widely available as possible, in order to promote all forms of electronic and mobile commerce.

" To encourage the leveraging and use of existing infrastructure and technologies by all businesses, particularly by small and medium enterprise (SME's) in order to energize private enterprise in the Philippines."

With the growth of the Internet, PICS lobbied for and assisted in the passage of the eCommerce Act in the year 2000. Subsequently PICS, conjointly with the Department of Trade & Industry, the Department of Budget & Management and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, drafted the implementing rules and regulations for the Act, providing both technical and legal expertise. In 2001, PICS honored those who worked for the Law's enactment.

Prior to this, aside from PICS participation in the Y2K law, the society also convened the ITECC legal cluster from November 2000 to July 2001 with the purpose of monitoring implementation of the eCommerce Law.

To further enhance implementation, PICS initiated the Philippine eGovernment Awards (PEGA) in cooperation with the Congressional Oversight Committee. The awards sought to encourage more efficient delivery of services to the people by recognizing government agencies and institutions that have best implemented innovative technologies.

In 2002, PICS continued to espouse awareness and education in the field of eCommerce, related new technologies, and eBusiness, in general, by holding the 1st National eCommerce Congress and Exhibit, which has now become an annual tradtion.

In 2003, PICS, in its desire to uplift and acknowledge the SMEs in the country held the 1st Annual PICS-IT SME awards recognizing SMEs nationwide who have chosen to embrace electronic commerce in its pursuit of business.

In 2004, PICS in its 3rd Annual ecommerce Congress, chose to focus on uplifting the SMEs through the use of mobile and wireless channel with the theme "Mobile and eCommerce, The winning combination" as everyone is a witness to the phenomenal way this channel has been adopted by the mass market. During the two day event, PICS also held the first Mobile Industry Forum which gathered representatives from the major telcos, academe, content providers, IT organizations, business owners and consumers discussing how next steps to uplift the industry.

Today, aside from its many special projects, PICS continues its commitment to push for the advancement and enhancement of Online Commerce in the Philippines. This, in no uncertain terms, will become the way of the future, a challenge that the Philippine Internet Commerce Society takes for the benefit of the industry and the Filipino people.

Electronic Commerce Act (RA 8792)

A Milestone for the Philippine Internet Commerce Society (PICS). The Philippine Internet Commerce Society (http://www.pics.org.ph) was founded in September 1997 with the goal of making eCommerce a reality for Filipinos. We played an important role in lobbying for the passage of the Y2K Law and E-Commerce Law of the Philippines.

Republic Act 8792, or the Electronic Commerce Law was enacted last June 14, 2000. Efforts for its passage started as early as 1992 with the Electronic Evidence Act. The law defines Philippine policy on electronic transactions to enable the country's players and consumers to actively participate in electronic trade.

2005-2006 PICS Board of Directors

Mary Anne D. Tolentino
President

Ramon D. Lizardo
Executive Vice President

Norelyn T. Babiera
VP for Membership and Treasurer

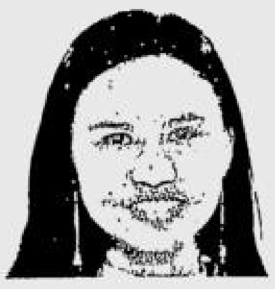
Atty. Teodoro Kalaw IV
VP for Advocacy and Community Dev't

Winthrop Y. Yu
Corporate Secretary

Michael Patrick D. Abundo
Vice President for Emerging Technologies

Roberto B. Gantuangco
Vice President for Special Projects, SME Development Program, and Website

Sherly S. Enriquez
Secretariat Manager



PICS Board of Directors: (standing from left) Norelyn Babiera, Sherly Enriquez; (second row, from left) Teodoro Kalaw IV, Winthrop Yu, Mon Lizardo, Mike Abando, and Byron Guazon (chair, PICS IT-SME Awards 2005); (seated) Mary Anne D. Tolentino. Not in photo is Roberto Gantuangco.

AFTER MORE THAN EIGHT YEARS SINCE its inception, the Philippine Commerce Society still upholds representing the internet community on its various interests : be it in legislative through the e-commerce law; the industry itself where it belongs, through the ever changing and fast paced development of available technologies; and education through its learning advocacies.

Hand in hand with our role in the industry, we are also looking on the macro settings. Our next level of task is to help the Filipino small and medium enterprises (SME's) compete globally in this ever shrinking world by embracing technology and use its maximum potentials.

Now on its 3rd year, the PICS IT-SME Awards aims to recognize SMEs which have managed to utilize ICT and e-business best practices in their business operations; and have managed to gain benefits in terms of profitability, savings, efficiency, customer relationships, supplier relationships, and other relevant metrics. As the only IT organization in the country advocating the use of electronic and mobile/wireless commerce, PICS continues to promote its vision and mission to help the SMEs embrace ICT tools as an important technology to leverage with big companies in doing business globally.

This year among our major advocacies include domain trusteeship, privacy, cyber crime and a great concern on electronic payment systems which maybe affordable yet still an unfulfilled reality because of the untapped potentials of the creativity of the Filipinos.

Recipients of the PICS SME IT Excellence Awards (the only one in the Philippines) will be honored during the staging of the 4th National E-Commerce Congress and Exhibit on October 25, 6:30 p.m., at the Boulevardier Function Room, Hotel Intercontinental, in Makati City.

Our resources are available. It is just a matter of having the right model that would effectively solve the Internet commerce's biggest barriers to entry - the electronic payments system that would have mass adoption. Once appropriate solutions are developed, secure cost effective and affordable by many, thereby completing the loop of full electronic commerce, the Filipino then can be empowered to compete in the global market.

To achieve those, PICS, more than ever, stands firm on its core mission of educating and creating avenues for discussion and interaction with the community for the continued development of the industry.

Conference Programme

Day 1, Tuesday, 25 October, 2005

8:00 - 9:00 Registration
9:00 - 9:15 Formal Opening Ceremonies
- Invocation
- National Anthem
- Welcome Address
- Formal Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

9:15 - 9:25 Keynote Address
9:25 -10:00 Relevant Legislation on ICT/E-Commerce/Mobile/Wireless Affecting SMBs
- Honorable Congressman Simeon Kintanar, Chairman, ICT Committee, House of Representatives
- Commissioner Dondi Mapa, Commissioner, Commission on Information and Communications Technology (CICT)

10:00 - 11:00 Industry Situationer: IT/E-Commerce/Mobile/Wireless Technology Tools for SMEs
- Ms. Primicias 'Bing' van Tooren, IT Director, AC Nielsen, and President, Philippine Computer Society (PCS)

11:00 - 11:45 E-Commerce In a Nutshell: A Starter Course (Building web sites, planning content for web sites, choosing your ISP, domain name registration, search engine optimization and affiliate program)
- Ms. Genevieve Go, General Manager, Mindgate Systems Inc.

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch Break
1:00 - 2:45 Presentation and Panel Discussion on Database Marketing, Mobile Marketing, Web Advertising
- Mr. Fidel Yubuco, FY Interactive Inc.
- Mr. Arthur Policarpio, CEO, Global Wireless Connections Inc.
- Mr. Mon Lizardo, Vice President, INQ7.net

2:45 - 4:00 Creating Consumer Evangelists: Blogging and Other Participative Technologies
- Mr. Gabby Dizon, Managing Director, Kokoro Works
- Mr. Mike Abundo, Vice President for Emerging Technologies, PICS

4:00 - 4:20 Don't Get Left Behind...Get Loaded
- Mr. Mark R. Daval-Santos, Senior Partner Sales & Associate - Financial Services, ePLDT

4:20 - 4:40 Wi-Max Electronic Wallet: Innovating, Payment Solutions that Offers Convenience No Fuss and with Income Potential
- Mr. Victor Pajarillo, President and CEO, Wimax Business Innovation Inc.

4:40 - 5:15 PLDT Presentation
- Edmund Pike, Product Manager, PLDT Business Solutions

5:30 - 6:00 Tour of Exhibits
6:30 - 8:30 PICS IT-SME Awards Ceremonies

Day 2, Wednesday, 26 October 2005

8:00 - 9:00 Registration
9:00 - 9:30 Industry Situationer on Mobile Payment
- Mr. Cesar Tolentino, Senior Analyst, XMG Asia Pacific

9:30 - 11:00 Available ePayment Solutions (Panel Discussion with Presentations)
- Mr. Vic Magdaraog, Moderator
- Mr. Paul Hubbard, CEO, YES IT Corporation
- Mr. Charles Yeomans, Managing Director, YES Group Ltd.
- Mr. Rey Marukot, Sales and Marketing Director, Bancnet Inc.
- Mr. Teodoro K. Limcaoco, Managing Director, MyAyala.Com
- Mr. Peter Gregory Reyes, eCommerce Manager, Yehey.com
- Mr. Victor Pajarillo, CEO, Wimax Business Innovation Inc.
- Mr. Joey Mendoza, President, Globe Mobile Commerce

11:00 - 12:00 Mobile Micro Payment in Small Business
- Mr. Roy Villanueva, Business Development Head, G-Xchange

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch Break
1:30 - 2:00 Security on Web Payment
- Mr. Manny Dizon, President, MySecureSign

2:00 - 2:30 Business Efficiency and Productivity Through Technology (Best Practices and Case Study on e-Enterprise for SMBs)
- Mr. Wilson Ng, President, Ng Khai Development Corporation

2:30 - 3:00 Available Financing for SMBs
- Ms. Katrina Sanvictores, SME Trade and Finance Head, Export and Industry Bank

3:00 - 3:30 Innove Communication Presentation
- Mr. Matthew A. Lloren, Marketing Manager - Product Development, Innove Communications, Inc.

Ms. Pats Makalinao, Segment Manager, GlobeQuest Innove Communications Inc.

3:30 - 4:30 VOIP Panel Discussion
- Atty. Teodoro Kalaw, Moderator
- Dr. William Torres, President, Philippine Internet Service Organization (PISO)
- Deputy Commissioner Jorge V. Sarmiento, National Telecommunications Commission (NTC)
- Edgardo V. Cabarios, President, Institute of Electronics Communications Engineer of the Philippines (IECEP)
- Mr. Bombin Cadiz, CTO, Phil. Network Foundation
- Mr. Eric Tiongson, Director - Tec, Enterworks

Winthrop Yu, Associate Editor, PC Magazine Philippines

5:00 - End of Conference

* The event is managed and marketed by Fiera de Manila, Inc. (E-mail: Fiera@info.com.ph/Website: http://www.fmi.com.ph)

ThinkPad recommends Windows® XP Professional.

centrino™
MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

PERFORMANCE WHEN YOU HIT THE ROAD.
PROTECTION WHEN IT HITS THE ROAD.

GREATER MOBILE HARD DRIVE PROTECTION. ONLY ON A THINKPAD. With a ThinkPad notebook, you're prepared for anything. That's because these notebooks feature Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology, so you can access your data wirelessly on the road. And if your computer ever hits the road, select models are designed to park up to two hard drives within 500 milliseconds. In short, it's like an airbag for your data. Work on your ThinkPad notebook with confidence knowing that you're getting top-quality protection, because ThinkPad is now a product of Lenovo, a global company uniting Lenovo and the former IBM PC Division under the Lenovo name. Our mission is to bring more innovation to more people so that they can do more amazing things.

ThinkPad R51e	ThinkPad T43	ThinkPad X41
DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS Rescue & Recovery™ Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery	DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS Rescue & Recovery™ & Active Protection System	DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS Rescue & Recovery™ & Active Protection System
SYSTEM FEATURES Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.73GHz, 2MB L2 Cache) Intel® PRO/Wireless 802.11b/g	SYSTEM FEATURES Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.70GHz, 2MB L2 Cache) Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG	SYSTEM FEATURES Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology Intel® Pentium® M Processor LV 758 (1.5GHz, 2MB L2 Cache) Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG
Windows® XP Professional	Windows® XP Professional	Windows® XP Professional
256MB DDR SDRAM, 40GB HDD	256MB DDR2 SDRAM, 40GB HDD	512MB DDR2 SDRAM, 40GB HDD
CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo Drive	CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo Drive	12.1" XGA (1024X768) TFT LCD, Intel® GMA 900, Integrated Bluetooth/IEEE1394, Infrared, 3 years (sysyem battery: 1 year)
14.1" XGA (1024X768) TFT LCD display, Intel®Extreme Graphics 2, 1 year parts & labor (system battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in Repair	14.1" XGA (1024X768) TFT LCD display, Intel®GMA 900, Infrared, 3 years (system battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in Repair	Customer Carry-in Repair
FREE 128MB Memory Key	FREE 128MB Memory Key	FREE Slim Executive Carrying Case & USB 2.0 Portable Combo Drive
THINK EXPRESS MODEL PhP78,095' (104330A)	THINK EXPRESS MODEL PhP114,995' (1871PA3)	THINK EXPRESS MODEL PhP134,295' (252568A)

Complement these ThinkPad notebooks with special options:

- X-Series Hi-Tech Backpack (73P3263) PhP1,895
- ThinkPad Carrying Case - Expander (73P3597) PhP2,395
- ThinkPad Carrying Case - Leather Attaché (73P3600) PhP5,395

With the Think Express Program, ThinkPad notebooks are preconfigured with your business and your budget in mind.

Contact our authorised resellers today.
Or visit thinkpad.com/ph/security 995 2426
ThinkPad is a product of Lenovo.

ThinkPad®

Corporate Resellers: Accent Micro Technologies, Inc 6363563 • American Technologies, Inc 7230601 • Creative Technologies, Inc. 4004222 • Equicom Computer Services, Inc. 8133801 • Ng Khai Development Corporation (032) 3462926 • Personal Computer Specialists, Inc. 8195106 • Unison Computer Systems, Inc. 3745888
Value Partners: ABC Computers Co., Inc 7214960 • Accent Micro Products, Inc 634/999 • Advance Microsystems Corp 6354181 • Advance Solutions, Inc 5263935 • Anos IT Systems 8921000 x 2073 • Axis Computer, Incorporated 8444383 • Arus International, Inc 6876500 • Ayala Systems Technology Inc. 8132494 • Columbia Technologies, Inc. 5240393 • Eco I.T. Solutions Corporation 7466500 • Electroworld Office Systems 7472054 • Information Products, Corp 7215250 • JPMED Asian Pacific Incorporated 8438000 • MG Business Systems, Inc 3727976 • Micro Image International, Corp 8404050 • Micro Pacific Technologies Co. Ltd 8404563 x 115 • Microbase, Inc 8137603 • Microcircuits Corporation 5318768 • Microphase Enterprise Company 8128814 • Northgate Technologies, Inc. 8937454 • MicroGold 8892800 • Productivity Tech Services, Inc 8992092 • Questronix Corporation 8134422 • Silicon Valley Computer Center 3716868 • Valueline Systems & Solutions Corporation 925/623 o Villman Computer Systems, Inc 7520030 • Virtuality Information Technology Systems 7277632 • Zenshin Systems Corporation 3669395

© Lenovo 2005 All rights reserved ThinkPad and ThinkVantage are trademarks of Lenovo. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Certain Microsoft software product(s) included with this computer may use technological measures for copy protection. IN SUCH EVENT, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE PRODUCT IF YOU DO NOT FULLY COMPLY WITH THE PRODUCT ACTIVATION PROCEDURES. Product activation procedures and Microsoft's privacy policy will be detailed during initial launch of the product, or upon certain reinstallations for the software product(s) or reconfigurations of the computer, and may be completed by Internet or telephone (toll charges may apply). Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, Itanium, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. 'While stocks last.

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
Funeral Home and Crematory
845-2334 to 38; 845-2440

OBITUARIES

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

James B. Lindenberg, Jr.

Peacefully joined his Creator on October 23, 2005
at the age of 57.

He shall be dearly missed by his father, **James Sr.**;
brothers **John** & **Edward**; niece **Karen** and friends.

His remains lie in state at the Faith Chapel,
Don Bosco Church, Pasay Road, Makati.

Cremation will follow the 9 a.m. Mass
on Saturday, October 29, 2005.

In Loving Memory of

EDUARDO LUCERO MARCELO

(Eddie)

30 April 1939 – 21 October 2005

He passed away at the age of 66, untimely and unexpected. We, his family, relatives and friends deeply miss his presence, but his loving memories will always remain in our hearts forever.

Wake : La Funeraria Paz, Inc., 3rd Floor Chapel 10
Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Daily Mass at 7:30 p.m.
Interment : Sacred Heart Memorial, Valenzuela City
27 October 2005 (Thursday), 9:00 a.m.
Funeral Mass will follow.

We, his family: wife **Milagros**; children **Anthony, Mauro, Marjorie**; children-in-laws, **Elena & Bessemer**; grandchildren **Michael & Tom Tom** request the pious readers to include **"Eddie"** in their prayers. Thank you.

THE MISSIONARY BENEDICTINE
SISTERS OF TUTZING

St. Scholastica's Priory, Manila
announce on the celebration of its
Centennial Year the peaceful death of

SISTER ODILIANA ROHRWASSER, OSB, 97

on October 23, 2005.

Interment will be at the Baguio City
Cemetery, Naguilian Road on Tuesday,
October 25, 2005 after the nine o'clock
morning funeral Mass at St. Scholastica's
Chapel, Baguio City.

MARIA PURUGGANAN ROA

Peacefully joined our Lord
on October 24, 2005
at the age of 76.

Her loving husband **Emeterio, Jr.**;
children **Butch**, **Candy** and **Larry Jalbuena**,
Dix and **Beulah**, **Jimmy** and **Katrina**,
Chuck and **Charina**;
grandchildren **Katrice, Michael, Mavis, Patricia, Andrea, Paulina, Sandra, Paolo, Monica, Bea**;
brothers **Francisco**, **Eduardo** and **Alberto**;
other relatives and friends request the pious
reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Bonifacio Chapel,
La Funeraria Paz-Sucat
(inside Manila Memorial Park), Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 27, 2005
at the Manila Memorial Park.

I always thank the Lord
I will never stop praising Him;
I will praise Him for what He has done.
Psalm 34:1

God has called home our dearly beloved Mama

VIRGINIA TESORO-FARIÑAS

(November 28, 1924 – October 22, 2005)

of Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur & Antipolo City
and reunited her with our beloved Papa

JOSE R. FARIÑAS

Her loving children, **Jun & Norma, Jess & Ginnie, Gina, Vicky & Arthur Lim, Venus Visperas, John & Deity, Jovi & Mylene**, grandchildren, great grandchildren, other relatives & friends request pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel I, Loyola Memorial Chapels,
Marikina City.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 27, 2005 at
Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

MANUEL DELA ROSA NARVASA

Who passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on October 15, 2005

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy and who in countless ways, condoled with and comforted us in our hour of bereavement.

Our Dearly Beloved

YAO SIT aka PACITA JOSEFA

of Pasig City

Peacefully rests in the infinite Grace and Goodness of the Lord
on the 21st day of October 2005 at the age of 97.

Her loving husband **Miguel** (†); children: **Maximiano** (†), **Johnny, Nena, Susan** (†), **Jose, Vic** (747) & **Edita**; sons-in-law; grandchildren & great grandchildren request the pious readers to join them in praying for her eternal happiness in heaven.

Her remains lie in state at Southwing Chapel A-2,
La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 27, 2005 at
9:00 a.m. at the Chinese Cemetery.

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

HEAD OFFICE : 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax)

CUBAO: 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)

MAKATI : 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370

KALAW : 528-0213; 527-3342

MEGAMALL : 635-0219; 635-0220

PRVINCIAL : (02) 899-4427; 897-8808 loc. 243

OBITUARIES

"...absent from the body to be present with the Lord."
— 2 Corinthians 5:8

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

ALEJANDRO YU, JR.

of Commmonwealth Avenue, Quezon City
ALEJEN Trading – Owner
EL-AL ENTERPRISES, INC.
Managing Director

Peacefully joined His Creator
on October 23, 2005 at the age of 54.

His loving children **Jenny & Danny, Andrew, Jon-Jon & Rhia, Fatima, Alex** and **Sandy**; grandchildren **Tin-Tin, Tonette**; brothers & sisters, relatives and friends mourn his passing away and request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel A-3, La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be announced later.

Estanislao Virata Abueg

Husband of the late ***Aurora M. Abueg*** *(†)*
Passed into the light on October 23, 2005

His daughter **Myrna Abueg-Dungca**, grandson **Carlo Dungca**; brother **Dan Abueg**, in-laws, and nephews and nieces request prayers for the repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel K of La Funeraria Paz on Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment is at the North Cemetery on October 26 after the 8 a.m. Mass.

In Loving Memory of Our Beloved

GODOFREDO C. FERNANDEZ

(Nov. 8, 1915 - Oct. 25, 1988)
On the occasion of his
17th Death Anniversary
We would like to request relatives,
friends & readers to remember him
in your prayers.

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.

Tel. Nos. Q.C.: 712-3001 • 743-6502
Manila: 711-6931 to 35

NAME OF DECEASED	PLACE OF VIEWING	INTERMENT/CREMATION DATE & TIME	INTERMENT/CREMATION PLACE
Socorro G. Madrid	Chapel F to L, Q.C.	10/27/05	Eternal Gardens Memorial Park
Eduardo Marcelo	Chapel C-10, Q.C.	10/27/05; 9:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart Memorial Valenzuela City
Zelda Victoria Asia	Chapel J, Q.C.	10/29/05; 1:00 p.m.	Gumaca, Quezon

---

Justice CEZAR D. FRANCISCO (ret.)
33° IGH, A&A. S.R.

Court of Appeals

"For me, to live is Christ
and to die is gain"
— Phil. 1:21

Loving husband to
Corazon Sangil Francisco †
Mellie Leandicho Francisco

Peacefully joined his Creator on October 17, 2005
at the age of 80

His remains lie in state at the family residence
at #1093 del Pilar Street, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
until October 27, 2005

We, his surviving spouse and children **Chito † & Meade, Sitsoy** and **Martina, Butch †, Bing, Eva & Ante, Roy & Liza, Leo, Perla & Roger, Reuben & Joy**; grandchildren and relatives request the pious readers to join the family in giving thanks and praises to the Lord for his life.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS
• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS

ARNEDO A. VERCELES

Retiree of United Laboratories, Inc.

Peacefully joined his Creator on October 22, 2005 at the age of 70.

His body lies in state at
Knights of Columbus Bldg.
Batangas City.

Cremation will be on October 27.

CLASSIFIEDS

GUIDELINES FOR AUCTION BUYERS (OCT 26, 2005 AUCTION)

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. All monies paid to UCPB prior to execution / notarization of contract to sell shall be considered option money. Option money shall be applied against downpayment / amortization due at the time the applicable contract has been executed and the Buyer has complied with all requirements of the Bank under the Reservation Agreement.
2. All refunds due to buyers shall be without interest or cost of money and shall be in the form of manager's checks made available for pick up at UCPB Head Office. A quitclaim document may be required by UCPB prior to release of the refund.
3. Downpayments may only be accepted in increments of 10%. Additional downpayments may be made but only up to a cut off date of 1 months from auction day. All payment terms must be finalized within this same cut-off date.
4. UCPB reserves the right to cancel the award or not to process the transaction if (i) bidders do not complete the requirements within 30 days from award, (ii) bidders do not comply with any of the guidelines or deadlines disseminated during the auction proper, (iii) UCPB determines (in its sole capacity) that the property is unfit for sale, (iv) if any discrepancies or errors on the prices, terms, details and status of the property are discovered. Cancellation in the event if (i) and (ii) above will result in forfeiture of the reservation fee in favor of UCPB.
5. Any of the following is considered valid identification: (i) current driver's license, (ii) current passport, (iii) current company ID, (iv) SSS or Postal ID, (v) voters ID. All must contain buyers specimen signature.
6. With the exception of properties where Writ of Possession is applicable, buyers shall take full responsibility for the eviction of any occupants on the property.
7. All costs and expenses with respect to surveys, tenant eviction, title deficiency correction or any other deficiency post-award are solely for the Buyers account.
8. Marital conformity on the applicable contract shall be required in case of married buyers (i.e. status at time of execution of the applicable agreement). For legally separated buyers, proof of legal separation shall be submitted within 30 days from auction day.
9. For buyers who will execute the applicable contract through a representative/s, a Special Power of Attorney shall be required. The prescribed format may be obtained from the Auctioneer (Property Forum) or any UCPB AMDD Sales Department employee.
10. Consularization of the applicable contract is required for all buyers and their spouses residing outside the Philippines.
11. The TIN number of all buyers and their spouses is a non-negotiable requirement prior to execution of the applicable contract. This information is required to be submitted within 30 days from auction day.
12. Buyers who submit their signed/notarized contracts to UCPB beyond the cut-off date of 7 days before the month end in which the contract has been notarized shall be liable to pay all penalties and surcharges due on Creditable Withholding Tax.
13. Prospective bidders are duly advised to inquire with the Auctioneer as to all the requirements of UCPB that need to submitted for the execution of the applicable contract. Prospective bidders are further advised to prepare these requirements in advance to avoid processing delays.

AUCTION PROPER GUIDELINES:

1. **Prospective bidders are duly advised that the auction proper shall begin promptly at 3:30pm. Each property shall only be called once, therefore latecomers or bidders who leave the auction premises during the auction proper are at risk in the event a property they wish to bid on is called and they are not present.**
2. Only cash, managers checks and proof of payment at any UCPB branch via Bills Payment Slips (BPS) are acceptable as show money. In case of losing bidders, please be advised that show money in the form of BPS shall be refunded within 7 days from auction day. The show money shall only be presented, not collected, during the registration.
3. Show money of P25,000 (or 10% of the floor price if the price is below P250,000) is strictly on a per property basis. Show money with respect to each property shall be checked and validated during registration.
4. Bidders may designate an authorized representative to bid on his behalf. Such representative must bring a duly signed Letter of Authority with accompanying documents for signature validation purposes. Representative bidders shall be liable as principal in addition to the bidder.
5. Bidders may opt to bid via sealed bid, which must be submitted to UCPB at least 2 business days before auction day. Bids shall be opened in the presence of UCPB's Audit Department at least 1 business day prior to auction day. A bid may be disqualified if it does not conform to the standards set forth in the guidelines. For questions on sealed bidding, please inquire with the Auctioneer (Property Forum) or any UCPB AMDD Sales Department representative.
6. UCPB reserves the right to reject any and all bids for whatever reason it may deem proper. UCPB may also withdraw or amend details of any of the properties in the auction list at anytime.
7. The auction proceedings, including the announcement by the Auctioneer of the increases in the bid price, shall be recorded and witnessed by representatives of UCPB's Audit Department.
8. Falsification of any information shall be a ground for cancellation or rescission of the Conditional Award Certificate. If UCPB determines that any of the information presented by the Winning Bidder has been falsified, the Conditional Award Certificate shall automatically be cancelled. No refunds shall be given in this case.
9. The Conditional Award Certificate is not a document of sale and may be revoked or cancelled by UCPB for any of the reasons described herein.
10. After the issuance of the Conditional Award Certificate but before the execution of the CTS, UCPB is entitled to conduct whatever investigation it determines to be appropriate (i.e. court case checking, credit investigation, etc.) over the Buyers of the properties. Should there be any negative findings, UCPB will have the option to cancel the Conditional Award Certificate. In case UCPB opts to cancel, reservation fee/option monies paid by the Buyers will be refunded.
11. The Winning Bidder shall forfeit his right to purchase the auctioned property if he does not pay the option money or submit the postdated checks to cover the monthly amortization. The Second Highest Bidder shall then be immediately informed of his right to purchase the property, provided it is at the last bid price indicated by the bidder during the auction. This procedure shall continue up to the Third Highest Bidder, after which UCPB has the option to terminate the bidding process.
12. After compliance with all conditions of the sale and the bid price has been paid in full, a Deed of Absolute Sale shall be issued in favor of the Winning Bidder. In the event of installment sales, a Contract to Sell shall be executed. In the event of sales of properties where the WOP has not yet been implemented (with or without cases), an Option Agreement shall be executed.
13. The auctioned properties are sold on "as is where is" basis. As such, except for the conditions and warranties on WOP and certain legal cases, UCPB makes no warranty as to the boundaries, area, technical description of the property, and its legal condition such as the existence of any claims, suits or actions involving the same. It shall be understood that UCPB makes no warranty whatsoever on the authenticity and accuracy of title over the property. Prospective bidders are therefore advised to check the title, the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the bidding.
14. Unless otherwise specified by UCPB, the Buyer shall be required to reimburse UCPB for any taxes, fees, expenses and assessments accruing on the property after the execution / notarization of the applicable contract which have been fully paid / advanced by UCPB.

UCPB

www.ucpb.com

BUSINESS

FDI inflows in '05 seen to hit $900M

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS expects the country to end this year with $900 million in net foreign direct investments, or 80 percent better than the $500 million registered in 2004, despite political uncertainties.

The BSP forecast, which was presented to the Monetary Board earlier, factored in big ticket investments planned by private companies in the power, manufacturing sectors and mining.

"We're looking at investments in mining and energy this year and next year," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said.

In manufacturing, which accounts for about 70 percent of the country's industrial output, the electronics and food sub-sectors are expected to attract the biggest foreign investments.

FDI flows represent long-term investments in productive activities, usually capital- and labor-intensive.

The latest BSP forecast, however, was lower than the original expectation of $1.1 billion in fresh FDI flows for 2005.

The phased privatization of the assets owned by National Power Corp. is likewise seen bringing in more FDIs to the country.

From January to July this year, the country generated $499 million worth of FDIs, more than double the $241 million a year ago.

The forecasts are based on the BSP's projected balance of payments, measuring actual flows that came in during the reference period as opposed to mere investment pledges.

The FDI inflows to the Philippines, however, are still too meager compared to the $148.9 billion in net direct investments expected to be poured into emerging Asian economies this year.

Based on estimates by Washington-based think-tank Institute of International Finance (IIF), Asia-Pacific is seen to generate $63.9 billion this year and $64 billion next year.

"China remains the major recipient of direct foreign investments in emerging Asia, as these, along with the mobilization of the labor force, have transformed the country into a regional export base," IIF said in a recent report.

But IIF said trade frictions had encouraged some manufacturers to diversify production away from China.

Bureau of Treasury may cancel scheduled auctions

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BUREAU OF TREASURY SAID THE government might reduce its domestic borrowings in the remaining months of the year.

With the government's cash level deemed safe and healthy, National Treasurer Omar Cruz said the Treasury might cancel the remaining Treasury bill auctions scheduled for this year. But this has yet to be finalized, he said.

The government is scheduled to hold two more T-bill and one T-bond auctions this year, which were projected to raise P13 billion. The government offers P4.5 billion in every T-bill auction and P4 billion in every T-bond auction.

The idea of canceling the remaining T-bill and T-bond auctions scheduled for December came about after the government completed its borrowing requirement for 2005 earlier than expected. Finance officials said the government took advantage of the prevailing positive interest rate environment by completing its foreign borrowing requirements for the year early and by pre-funding its requirements for 2006.

The government set a foreign borrowing program of $4 billion this year, of which $3.1 billion should come from commercial sources through sovereign bond floats.

In the latest sovereign bond float in September, the government was required to borrow only $850 million to complete its foreign-commercial borrowing requirement for this year, as it had already raised $2.25 billion in January and May through similar bond issues. But the government decided to raise a total of $1 billion so that it could also pre-fund portion of next year's borrowing requirement.

The 10-year bonds issued last month, which carried a coupon of 8 percent, were priced at 98.301 percent to yield 8.25 percent.

2 IPR courts to be formed

TWO LEGAL COURTS SPECIALIZING IN cases involving intellectual property rights are expected to be formed in November as the Supreme Court and the Intellectual Property Office finalize an agreement to do so.

IPO Director General Adrian S. Cristobal Jr. said in an interview that a memorandum of understanding was supposed to have been signed last Monday, but that this was put off because there were things to fine-tune.

"But we are confident that this would push through and that we could have IPR courts as early as November," Cristobal said.

"In fact, the training of the people who will be involved in the IPR courts will start next month," he added.

Earlier this year, the IPO submitted to the Supreme Court a proposal seeking the creation of courts dedicated to IPR issues, which Cristobal said could help boost the international investor community's confidence in the country's IPR system.

Currently, designated commercial courts are handling IPR cases along with other cases of commercial nature.

"We need a strong IPR system to foster Filipino creativity and innovation, attract investments and generate jobs," Cristobal said.

He said Metro Manila alone, accounts for 993 IPR cases. Cristobal said it might also be necessary to put up similar courts in other highly urbanized areas in the country, such as Cebu.

The Joint Foreign Chambers of the Philippines said the initiative was an "extremely positive step" in improving the protection of IP rights in the country. *Ronnel W. Domingo*

Enjoy higher interest rates and monthly earnings!

TERM	INTEREST RATES
3-Year	8%
2-Year	
1-Year	

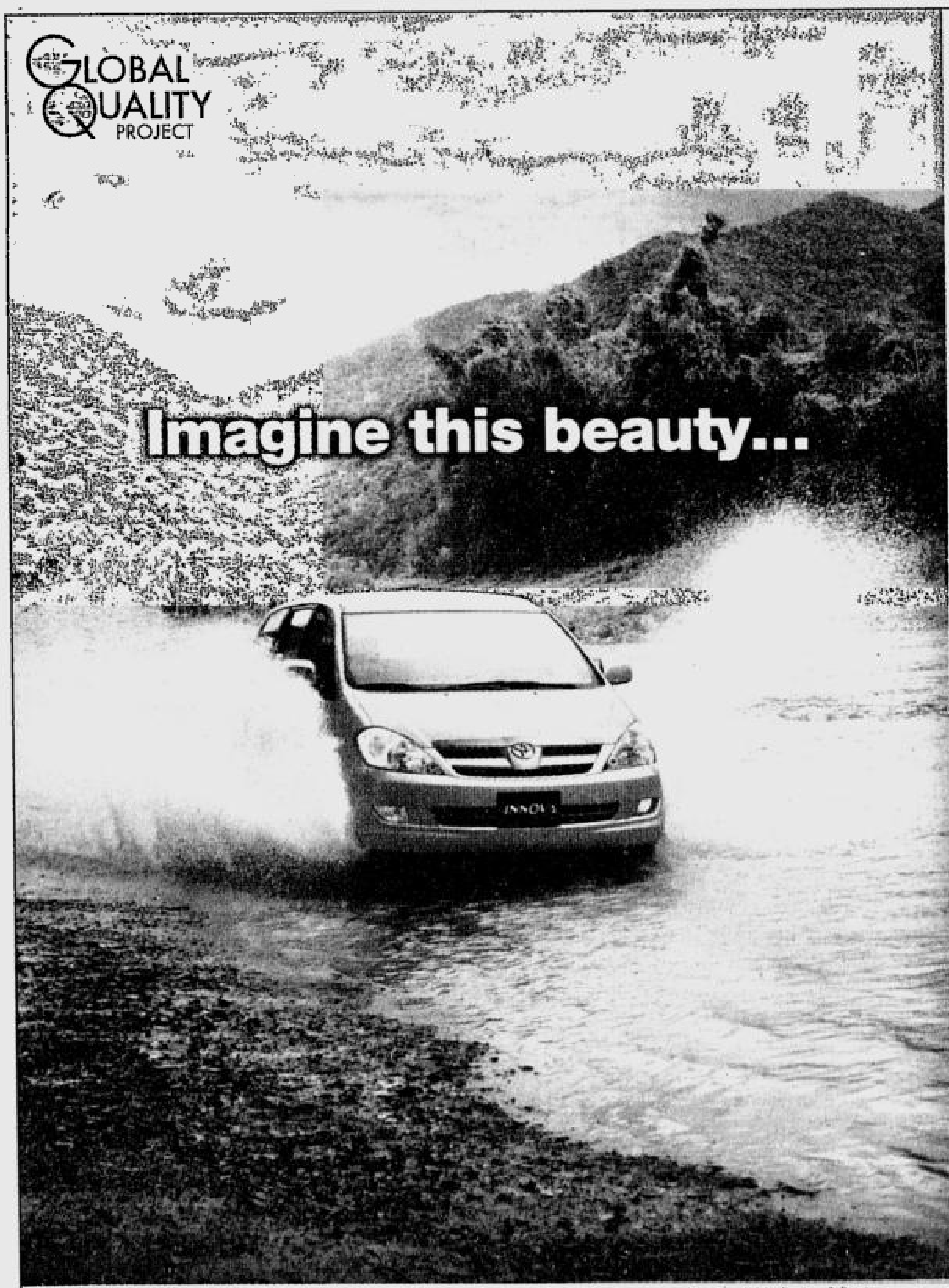
Affordable at a minimum of PhP50,000.
Also inquire about our 30, 60 or 90-day term Peso Time Deposit.
*Quoted rates are subject to change without prior notice.
Rates are on per annum basis and net of documentary stamp taxes.

Open an account now at any PSBank branch!

PSBank Peso TIME DEPOSIT

Text PSBANK PTD123 <your name> <your landline no.> <your email address> then send to 2327 for Globe or 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P250,000

GLOBAL QUALITY PROJECT



Passion

so VERSATILE.

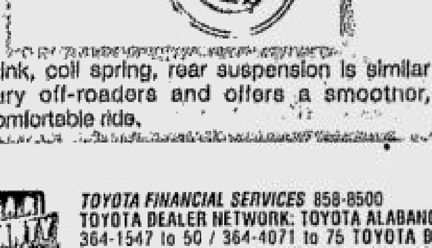
INNOVA
A Beautiful [R]evolution

D-4D VVT-i

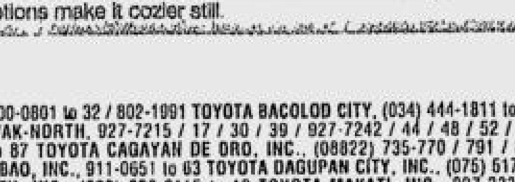
The latest 2.5L Common-Rail diesel engine and the 2.0L Variable Valve Timing-intelligent (VVT-i) gasoline engine are both engineered for responsive power, superb drivability and fuel efficiency.

TOP Platform

Built for the roads of the world and shared by all IMV models, the Toyota Outstanding Performance (TOP) Platform is a tough ensemble of the highly rigid frame, independent front suspension and a 4-link rear suspension.



The 4-link, coil spring, rear suspension is similar to luxury off-roaders and offers a smoother, more comfortable ride.



Its wide and spacious interiors are heightened by soft curves, plus highly luxurious materials. Soft seats, numerous seating options make it cozier still.

Versatility. This is second nature to the Innova. Take it to major thoroughfares, mud trails, or the metropolis. It would be equally responsive on all road conditions. After all, the double wishbone front suspension and the 4-link, coil spring, rear suspension can endure tough trips yet offer a smoother, more comfortable ride.

Its bigger cabin space allows more freedom of movement. Flexible seat arrangement creates endless storage possibilities. Plus, luxurious, well-appointed trimmings are generously provided inside and out. You get a vehicle that's built for the roads of the world, versatile in every way.

TOYOTA

3 YEAR WARRANTY

www.toyota.com.ph

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500
TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK: TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., 800-0801 to 32 / 802-1991 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4128 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC., 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 / 364-4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH, 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC., (043) 723-7386 / (043) 723-7639 TOYOTA BICUTAN PARANAQUE, 777-9500 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC., (044) 463-0481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC., (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858-9994 / (088) 858-7770 / (08822) 737-480 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU-MANDAUE, (032) 345-8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH, 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 911-0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC., (075) 517-2026 to 28 / (075) 522-0771 / 0734/ 4773 TOYOTA DASMARIÑAS CAVITE, (046) 850-2036 / (046) 850-2929 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC., (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., (033) 320-6115 to 19 TOYOTA MAKATI, INC., 897-3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP., 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION, 682-9701 to 03 TOYOTA OTIS, INC., 564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., 893-8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SAN FERNANDO, (045) 961-1188 TOYOTA SHAW, INC., 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3000 (telefax) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 671-9854 to 64 / 671-0460

LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS ◎ TUESDAY FITNESS ◎ WEDNESDAY 2BU ◎ THURSDAY FOOD ◎ FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY

ISUMBONG: PEKENG GAMOT!
CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-10-FAKEMED.
A public service ad from the Coalition Against Fake Medicines and Philippine Daily Inquirer.

New and old solutions to medical woes

INSIDE OUT

Cory Quirino

Part II

MEDITRONICS, A NEW technology from Switzerland, uses a metal rod that transmits a low-frequency energy deadly to parasites, viruses, fungi, bacteria and pathogens.

The no-pill, no-injection, no-surgery, no-side-effects treatment is said to control and assist in curing just about any illness like asthma, type II or adult-onset diabetes, leukemia, hepatitis B, cysts, heart disease, hemorrhoids, high blood pressure, skin disease and eye problems.

To demonstrate Meditronics' efficacy, medical missions were held in various barangays in Metro Manila that treated some 5,000 patients. The most recent mission was held in cooperation with the Department of Health.

The Meditronics equipment consists of hand-held rods the size of your palm that are powered by nine-volt batteries. A certain frequency is emitted that is lethal to many organisms. After 10 treatments lasting 20 minutes each, just about any ailment will be relieved.

Testimonials about the new procedure came from, among others, Mrs. G. (name withheld), who had an infected eye that made her partially blind, and Mrs. D., who had leukemia.

Perhaps you are wondering if this treatment against organisms will have an effect on something like cancer.

Alternative medicine practitioners believe tumors and other illnesses are caused by parasites that attack healthy organs to survive and inhabit the body.

Call 3763290 or 8506457.

Potent antioxidant

In the search for cures for current illnesses there is a conscious effort to look to nature once again. Hippocrates, father of medicine, said "natural forces are the healers of disease."

While the human body can heal itself, it also responds better to things natural. Thus, the harmony between nature and the body.

With the popularity of seedless grapes, few realize that the seeds contain powerful medicine. Today, scientists are beginning to appreciate the humble pit.

Grape seeds contain a bioflavonoid complex better known as procyanidolic Oligamers (PC) found to be 20 times more potent than vitamin C and 50 times more potent than vitamin E.

Bioflavonoids derived from natural plants help protect living tissue. Their deep reddish purple color is visible in the skin of grapes, cherries, blueberries, barks of the lemon and Landis pine trees, and leaves of the hazelnut tree.

But of all the sources, grape seed is the most potent. Dr. Jacques Masquelier discovered the power of PC in 1948 while working on his thesis. Pursuing his research, a second patent was made. This time grape seeds yielded a 10 percent higher concentration of bioflavonoids than pine bark. He called it PCO.

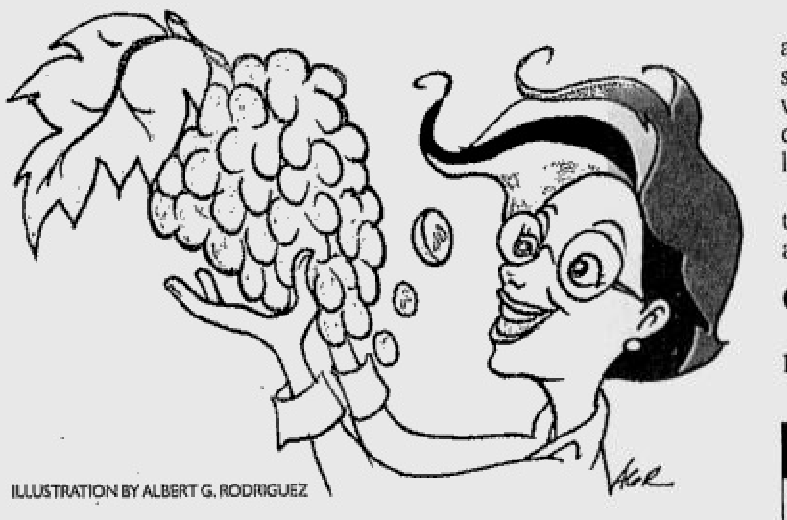


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

Millions of people have been enjoying better health because of PCO. It is effective in the treatment of allergies, arthritis, ulcers, hardening of the arteries, cellulite, wrinkling of skin, brown spots/pigmentation, gum disease, varicose veins, glaucoma, diabetes, etc.

PCO strengthens the connective tissues of the body and is anti-inflammatory, anti-allergy and anti-mutagenic. Above all, it is considered a powerful ally in slowing the aging process. It is now being hailed as the most powerful nutrient of the last century.

Miracle berry

Christian legend has it that the crown of thorns on Jesus Christ's head was made of hawthorn berry. The herb has been known to possess miraculous healing powers. Its leaves and berries are used for kidney stones, heart circulatory and nerve problems.

Also considered as a powerful health tonic for the heart, it works as a stimulant. Der X, 55, was suffering from heart spasms (angina). Desperate after constant medication that had little effect, he tried hawthorn berry. His dosage—20 drops of a tincture in water three times daily increasing to dosage to 50 drops per drink later. After two days, intervals between attacks grew longer. In four weeks, his life was back to normal and he returned to work.

Hawthorn tea is made from the flowers or leaves. Use two teaspoons of the mixture and infuse in a teapot for 20 minutes. The herb is also available in pill form.

(Reference: Miracle Food Cures from the Bible by Reese Dubin)

Your beauty regimen

Reviving water splash: Get a bucket of cold water and douse yourself with a quick big splash. Do not hesitate not even for a second. The shock will cause your lymphatic system to awaken abruptly. Follow with two more splashes. Then alternate with very warm water. Followed by cold again. This ought to positively wake you up.

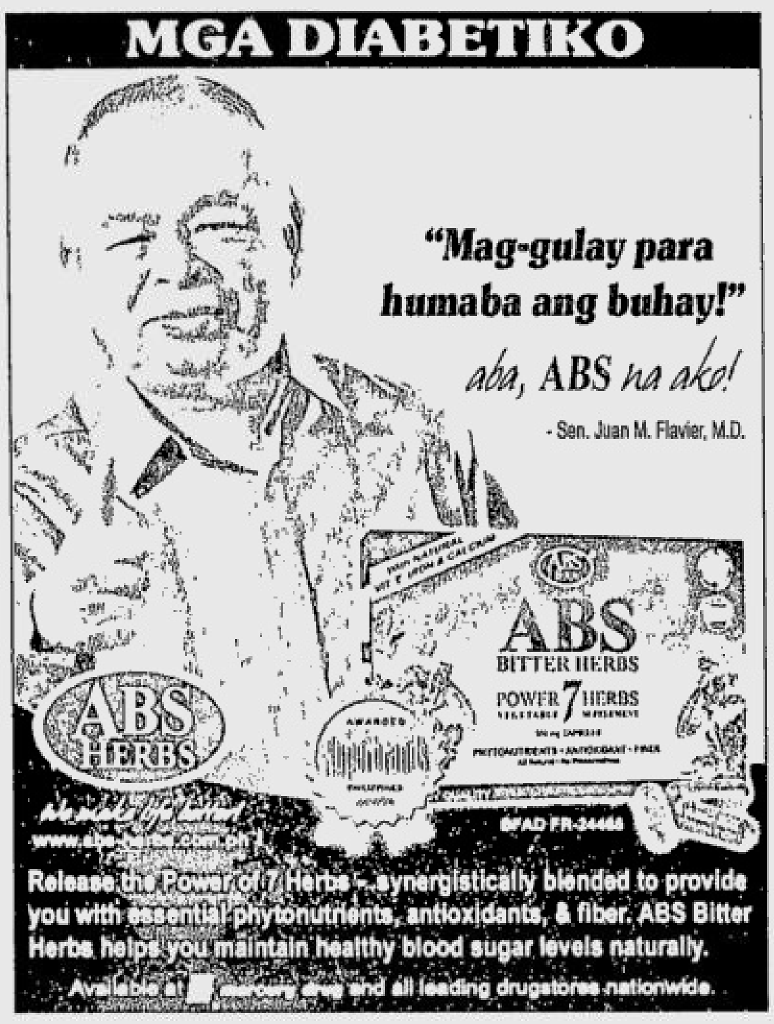
Your affirmation: "I am ready to face the world—alive, alert, awake!"

Clinic reopens

Bringing beauty to the heart of Pasig, this dermatological cosmetic center offers a wide range of services and treatments to make one look good like microdermabrasion/diamond peel, mesolipo, filler injection and a lot more. Particularly interesting is the collagen mask that will almost instantly change the quality and look of your skin from lackluster to radiant.

Call 8439310.

Love and light!



Release the Power of 7 Herbs - synergistically blended to provide you with essential phytonutrients, antioxidants, & fiber. ABS Bitter Herbs helps you maintain healthy blood sugar levels naturally.
Available at mercury drug and all leading drugstores nationwide.

Natural!
Xylitol-based Oral Health Products
Product Excellence Award Winners!
Xylogel
Xylorinse
Xylocleans
Xylitol is a natural sugar substitute found in fruits and vegetables that has proven antibacterial and anti-dental caries actions.

Xylogel
A natural teething and healing oral gel
- Relieves teething pain and discomfort in babies.
- Heals mouth sores and gum infection.
- Prevents dental caries.
- In a sweet bubble gum flavor.

2004 Philippine Marketing Excellence Awardee "Most Outstanding Teething Oral Gel"

Xylorinse
A non-alcohol double protection mouthwash
- Kills the germ, *S.mutans*, that causes bad breath and dental caries.
- Contains fluoride for double protection against dental caries.
- In a sweet mint taste.

2005 National Product Quality Excellence Awardee "Best Alcohol-Free Mouthwash"

Xylocleans
Kiddie Toothpaste
- Prevents dental cavities and maintains excellent oral health
- In bubble gum and strawberry flavors.

2004 Philippine Marketing Excellence Awardee "Most Outstanding Flavored Kiddie Toothpaste"
*A direct-selling product.
*Available only in doctors' and dentists' clinics/direct sellers
Interested sellers, please contact Pediapharma Inc.

BFAD-Approved and HALAL-Certified

Distributed by:
Pediapharma, Inc.
"The first to innovate pharmaceutical company"
Website: www.pediapharmainc.com • E-mail: pediapharma@manila-online.net
Tel Nos.: (632)414-2989/373-7437 • Fax No.: (632)414-2987
• Infotext: (0918)942-0716

Available at mercury drug and other leading drugstores.

THEY love to party: J&B's Mikay Chang with Typ Typ Coo and Lanie Lim

LEO Posadas and Kat Cruz

BUBBLES Paraiso and Fortune Santos

EMBASSY'S main man Eric Cua with Stef Cabal, Kat Cruz, Ivan Zalameda, Rosa from Italy and Romina Diaz

EVENT and PR man GP Reyes with his gal, pretty Chicho Suarez

J&B NIGHTOLOGY'S host, gorgeous Bianca Valerio

SHE'S the hottest, newest DJ in town, Mau Torres.

EMBASSY'S hot Jon Herrera with DJ Karl Ty and Ivan Zalameda

Cola-rize your drink

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by **Alex Van Hagen** using **Kodak** EasyShare system

NOW YOU HAVE SURPRISES, AND surprises. And during the "J&B Nightology" at the chi-chi super popular Embassy Club at the Fort, *palanggas*, those who expected the unexpected were not disappointed.

The phenomenon "that is sweeping the world's party capitals is centered around the young and dynamic whisky, J&B. Recommended method of consumption: J&B mixed with cola," explained young PR shaker **GP Reyes**, but who else?

Naturellement, Nightology's introduction into our town fulfilled its promise of the unexpected, *palanggas*. Invitees got an all-night open bar to enjoy the hot-hot new drink J&B and cola at the hottest club, Embassy, natch! The gorgeous host **Bianca Valerio** tempted us into engaging in a freewheeling chit-chat about nightology, awarding free bottles of J&B and VIP entry to the enthusiastic crowd.

A surprise fashion show had top models emerging from the rocking mob and wearing vibrant outfits showcasing J&B's color scheme of green, red, yellow and blue. It was followed by a video presentation showing hot rocker and MTV VJ **Marc Abaya** alighting from a silver Mercedes at the Embassy main door, coming up the red-carpeted stairs and serenading us in a fusion-rock number set to hip-hop beat. That was not the end, dahlings.

Another unanticipated number followed—the performance of awesome and pretty **Mau Torres**, the scene's rising hot female DJ. And, finally, a special DJ set by events and PR man GP Reyes rocked the main room. It also featured singer **Romina Diaz** straight from Italy!

Expect more exciting unexpected happenings, *palanggas*, like a secret Mansion Party, a cool Nightology voyage to Boracay, and a special Nightology nights at the hottest bars. Not bad, huh!

Shopaholics' haven

Oh my! It was a shopping village, *palanggas*. All the while I thought I was going to a quaint little store during the fab opening of Tiendesitas at Frontera Verde.

Instead *moi* breezed into nine shopping villages dedicated to almost everything a shopaholic like me could want, all laid out on 30,000 sq m of space with breezy gardens for relaxation and exhibit space.

Driving in from C-5, you can't miss the pavilions in eye-catching Filipino architecture with Maranao influence.

Under these roofs are, take note, 450 traders from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao specializing in unique merchandise, including some for export, that you won't usually find in retail outlets. It's a place where you'll discover the treasures and pleasures of our very own local goods and produce.

And what is real cool is that Tiendesitas will operate as a night market. Great for shopping after work. People can have a fantastic dinner in one of several food outlets.

During the grand opening, Cosmo Manille's old wealth, the prestigious Ortigas *familia*, personally conducted a tour of the complex for their invitees from the Valle Verde community, Department of Tourism, and Department of Trade and Industry, as well as Pasig City officials. It was a rare appearance for the Ortigas clan, dahlings.

Tourism representative **Bette Nelle** was ecstatic. "We have been waiting for this kind of tourism attraction for so long. With our thrust to promote Manila as a great destination, Tiendesitas is ideal," Nelle says.

Check it out, *palanggas*. It's a different kind of shopping experience.

Oye, vamos todos al la Tiendesitas, *si*?

Inventive

The Body Shop practically started all the buzz on the use of herbs, flowers and spices. Before you could bat an eyelash, Body Shop Philippines hit our shores. Now it has launched its newest fragrance range, "Invent Your Scent."

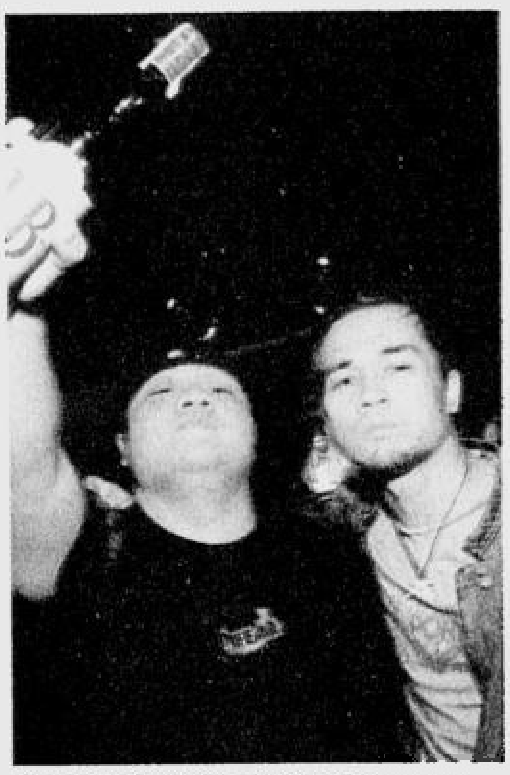
A first of its kind in the country, this cool concept of mixing and matching two to three fragrances to create new and unique scents adds excitement and flavor to the entire fragrance line of The Body Shop.

Once my "hellos" were over, *moi* breezed around the shop, and checked out the nine delightful scents: Altaro, Amorito, Aztique, Beleaf, Chymara, Citrella, Minteva, Velique and Zinzibar.

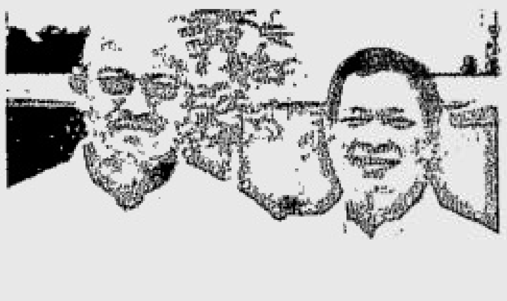
It was truly a different and exciting kind of affair that namedroppables and celebrities who adored products of The Body Shop wouldn't have missed.

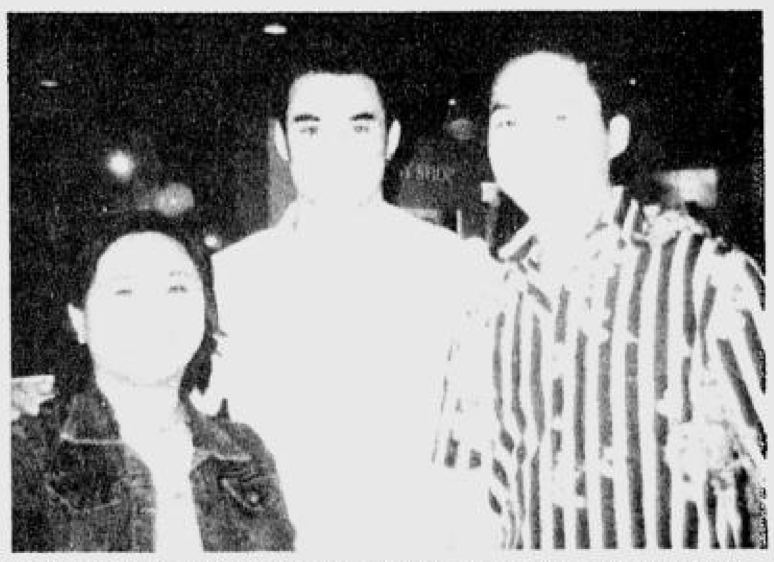
Three of the best university dance groups in the country, headed by the dance group of my alma mater La Salle, UA&P's Squadra Dance Group and the UP Filipiniana Dance Company, gave awesome performances. The Podium's Grand Atrium was filled to capacity. The fabulously beautiful and articulate host, **Pam Ylagan** of Wave 89.1 FM, did a superb job. We were served cocktail finger foods. Drinks were from Bizu and Novellino. Beautiful faces **Maegan Young**; **Paolo Paraiso**; **Mylene Dizon**; **Tosca Puno** (Rico J. Puno's daughter); and Brazilian supermodel, stunningly gorgeous **Elize Tomasi** of Posh Modeling Agency, talked about their favorite scent combinations from the "Invent Your Scent" (I.Y.S.) range.

Body Shop endorsers **Brad Turvey** and **Angel Aquino** asked trivia questions about the I.Y.S. fragrance range. Tons of fab prizes were given to those who answered correctly, dahlings. *Moi* really had a cool time, inventing my own scent.


J&B FOLLOWERS Jorel Corpuz and Marc Abaya

ORTIGAS' first lady Doña Begoña B. Ortigas is ready for the balloon ceremony.


VICE Mayor Yoyong Martirez of Pasig City with Noel Rapadas, CFO-OCLP


THE BODY Shop training manager Karen Oliva with endorser Brad Turvey and PR and marketing officer Robbie Francisco

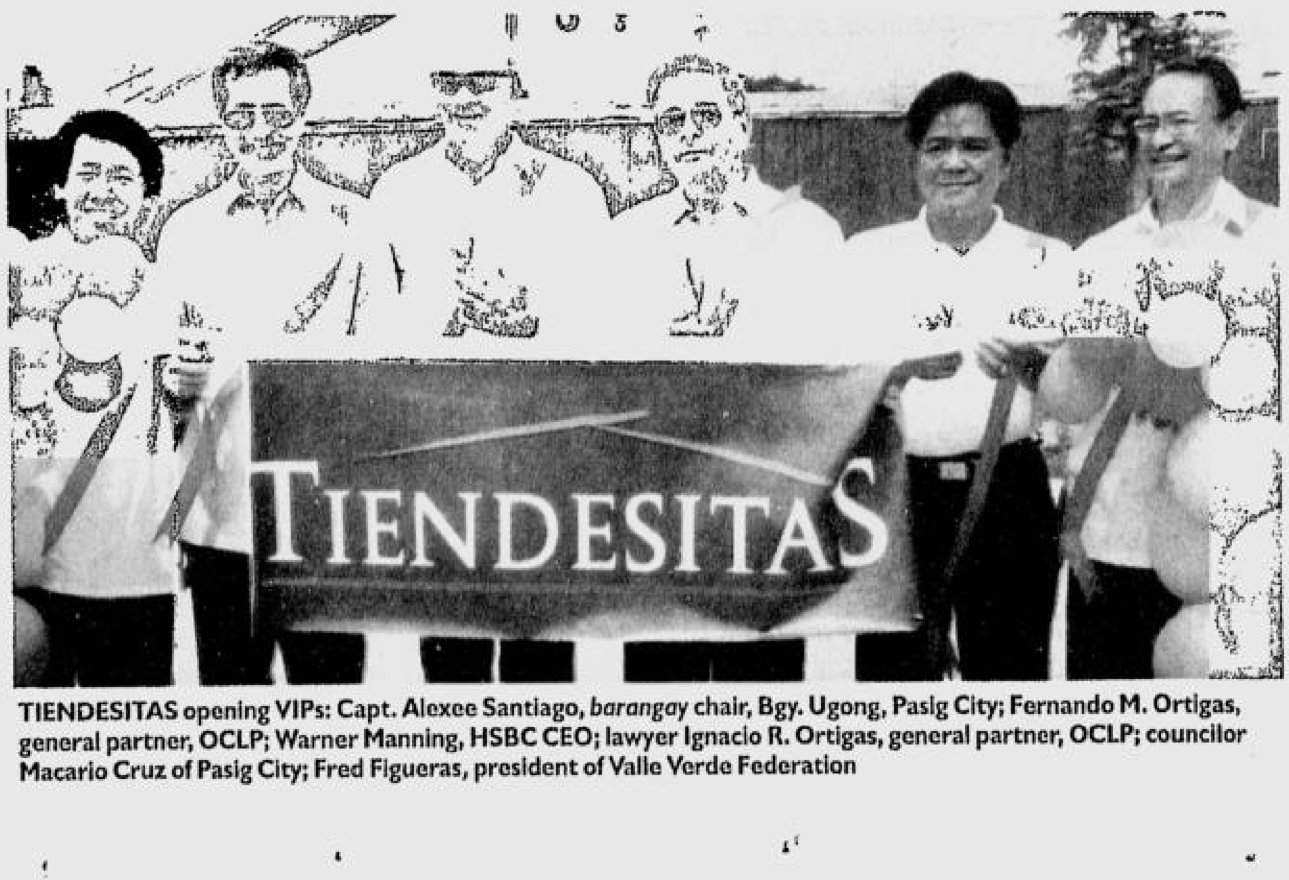
TEEN star Maegan Young of GMA 7 Artist Center

TV ACTRESS Mylene Dizon

"INVENT Your Scent" mixologists

WAVE 89.1 DJ Pam Ylagan

THE BODY Shop team with Brazilian model Elize Tomasi and Pam Ylagan



TIENDESITAS opening VIPs: Capt. Alexee Santiago, *barangay* chair, Bgy. Ugong, Pasig City; Fernando M. Ortigas, general partner, OCLP; Warner Manning, HSBC CEO; lawyer Ignacio R. Ortigas, general partner, OCLP; councilor Macario Cruz of Pasig City; Fred Figueras, president of Valle Verde Federation

MARGA Ortigas

NATIVIDAD Melian with Chari Ortigas Montilla, Mercedes Gonzalez and Mary Tan

ORTIGAS & Co. frontliners Trina Chan and Cathy Ko welcome hotshot invitees to the grand opening of Tiendesitas.

HSBC'S eye-catching first lady Julie Manning with Rex Drilon, COO of Ortigas & Co. Ltd. Partnership

BOHOLANA Sonia vda. de Roco takes pride in Filipino ingenuity.

Harmful earth rays cause stress at home, workplace

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

MY COLUMN ON OCT. 4, ABOUT harmful earth rays or geopathic stress elicited a good number of response from readers.

My secretary found more information about earth rays and the work of Rolf Gordon on the Internet, which I am including in this follow-up column.

After losing his 26-year-old son to cancer about 20 years ago, Rolf Gordon investigated the effects of harmful earth rays or geopathic stress on man's health. He discovered that sleeping in a place of geopathic stress "is the only common factor in cases of cancer and other serious and chronic illnesses."

He tracked down information about the subject in Denmark and Germany because there was no literature about it in English. Stressful places were called by many confusing names, so he simplified the whole subject by coining the phrase "geopathic stress." He wrote a small book called "Are You Sleeping in a Safe Place?" to explain the phenomenon and how people can easily check for geopathic stress by themselves.

According to Gordon, "Geopathic stress is the Earth's vibrations which rise up through the Earth and are distorted by weak electromagnetic fields created by subterranean running water, certain mineral concentrations, fault lines and underground cavities. The distorted vibrations become abnormally high and harmful to living organisms."

Questions to ask

How will you know if you are staying or working in a place with geopathic stress or harmful earth rays? Gordon lists down the following questions you should ask yourself:

1. Did my health problem begin shortly after moving into this home or place of work?

2. Do I feel better when I am away from the home or place of work?

3. Do any of my family feel uneasy about the atmosphere at home?

4. Did the previous occupants suffer from any serious or long-term illness?

5. Does the illness seem to be worse during autumn or spring or wet stormy weather (when underground water may be flowing at higher velocity)?

6. Were there any nearby disturbances, which may have caused underground water veins to flow into different channels under my house prior to my illness (example: landslides, building and road work, working quarries and mines etc.)?

7. Does my home or any part of it feel unnaturally cold or damp?

All living creatures

Not only human beings but all living creatures are affected by geopathic stress or harmful earth rays. Most animals will seek to sleep in a good place and will become stressed if forced to live in geopathically stressed homes.

Most trees and plants will have stunted growth and bear no fruit in a geopathically stressed place. Babies will move away from geopathically stressed place on their bed or crib. "If babies are disturbed in their sleep, try moving their beds away from the usual place," Gordon advises.

According to Gordon, "Most hospital nurses will tell you some beds have a reputation of patients having more difficulty recovering, or where death rate is higher."

He also relates the story of Beverly who had an operation for brain tumor. The doctor told her husband she only had days to live. He suspected geopathic stress around his wife's bed. When he moved her bed, she recovered within days... so did a pot plant next to her bed!

Gordon says research has shown that geopathic stress is caused mainly by narrow paths of running water about 200 to 300 feet below ground. They create an electromagnetic field that disturbs the earth's natural vibration, which is 7.83 Hz (cycles per second or cps which, as any student of mine knows, is the alpha brain wave rhythm).

The alpha rhythm of 7.83 cps has been confirmed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. When astronauts were removed from these beneficial earth vibrations, they suffered mental and physical distress. In geopathically stressed areas, the vibrations can go as high as 250 Hz. When this happens, our bodies have less chance of fighting harmful microorganisms.

Not only homes but also office buildings and factories can be located in geopathically stressed areas and the people working there will suffer from all sorts of illnesses resulting in costly absences, sick leaves and accidents.

Detection

The presence of geopathic stress or harmful earth rays can be detected by a simple dowsing rod or pendulum that can easily be learned by anybody. Dowsing has been practiced since 10,000 years ago by people from all over the world to find underground water and minerals. It can also be used to check one's health, determine what vitamins or medicines to take, and to discover what food or drink one is allergic to.

The book of Rolf Gordon is not available in the Philippines. I got my copy from Argentina. It was given to me many years ago by an Argentinean who was a member of a dowsing society.

If you want to know more about the work of Gordon, you may contact him at 130 Gipsy Hill, London SE19 1PL England, or visit www.rolfgordon.co.uk

Note: I will be conducting a Basic ESP and Intuition Development seminar on Nov. 18-19 in Davao. Call or text 0917-8313649.

Anniversary discount promo

LAUREN VEIN CENTRE PHILIPPINES IS marking its second anniversary by giving a 15-percent discount on services until Nov. 15.

The clinic offers the painless sclerotherapy treatment for varicose veins.

Lauren Vein was introduced to the Philippines by Dr. H.L Saw of Australia's Vein Treatment Corp.

He says sclerotherapy for leg varicose veins of any size will eventually replace surgery in the management of the disorder.

Lauren Vein Centre is at 4/F, Angelus Plaza Bldg, 104 Vicente Rufino St., Legazpi Village. Call 8939771 or 8942361.

MEDICard The Healthcare U Deserve!

Take Charge Doc!

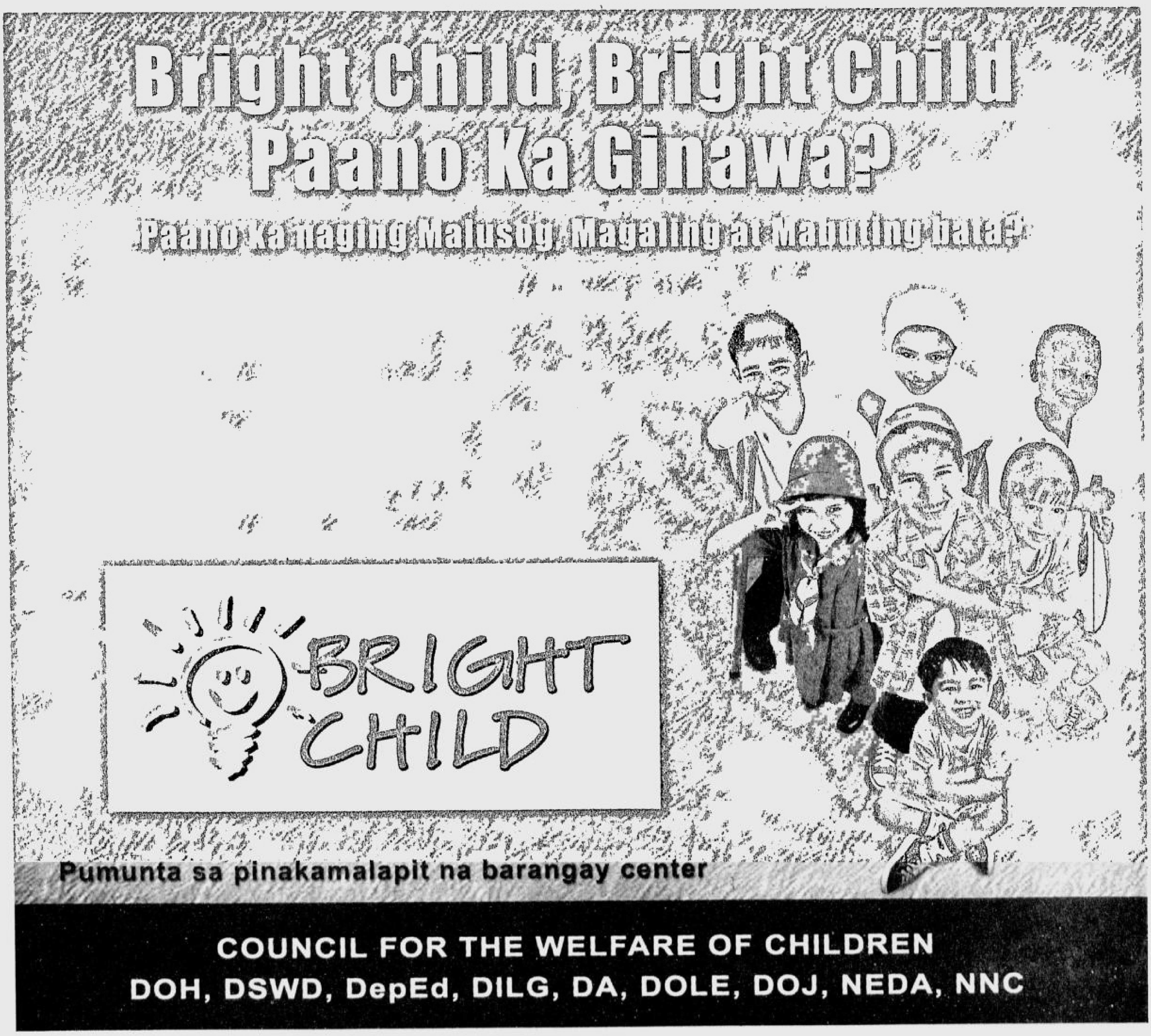
What are the treatment methodologies for breast cancer?

The battle to treat Breast Cancer is Multidisciplinary in approach, which means it involves different fields of specialization. The pathologist is tasked to make the histologic diagnosis of malignancy and it is only then that surgeons, medical oncologists and the radiation oncologists work hand in hand to proceed with the treatment. There are two major modalities of breast cancer treatment. The first is the Locoregional Treatment Modality which involves surgery (actual removal of the tumor in the breast or the whole breast itself) and Radiotherapy-teletherapy (cobalt, linear accelerator) subjecting the breast area and other adjacent fields to radiation to kill cancer cells. The second is the Systemic Treatment Modality which involves: 1) Cytotoxic Chemotherapy, which is given intravenously and orally, 2) Hormonal therapy which is taken orally for extended periods of time for hormone sensitive tumors, 3) Immunologic therapy—to administer tumor specific immune effector to patients. Chemotherapy can be given before surgery (neoadjuvant) to reduce tumor bulk or make the tumor operable and after surgey (adjuvant). For early breast cancer (Stage I and Stage II), treatment goal is to cure while palliation (improving the quality of life) for locally advanced and metastatic breast cancer (Stage III and Stage IV).

This week's answer to our feature question was provided by our medical service provider from Manila East Medical Center and Queen Mary Help of Christians Hospital in Rizal, Dr. Dennis Evangelista Dulay. Dr. Dulay specializes in IM-Oncology. He earned his medical degree from Manila Central University (MCU FDTMF) in 1993, followed by his residency training for Internal Medicine in 1999. He later took his subspecialization training in Oncology in 2002. He is affiliated with the Philippine College of Physicians, Philippine Society of Medical Oncologists and Philippine Academy of Medical Specialists. He is married to Dr. Mary Rose [illegible] Dulay and blessed with two children. MEDICard members may visit him for consultation at Manila East Medical Center, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 am to 12noon and Queen Mary Help of Christians Hospital, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2pm to 5pm

MEDICard's Medical Director, Dr. Nicky Montoya answers questions on health through the assistance and expertise of MEDICard's network of accredited specialists. Write to Dr. Nicky or E-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com for your inquiries on health matters.

Nicky


Bright Child, Bright Child
Paano Ka Ginawa?
Paano Ka naging Malusog, Magaling at Mabuting bata?
BRIGHT CHILD
Pumunta sa pinakamalapit na barangay center
COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN
DOH, DSWD, DepEd, DILG, DA, DOLE, DOJ, NEDA, NNC

Breath of life

WELL AND GOOD
Tina Juan

AS A FITNESS PROFESSIONAL, I have to renew my CPR or Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation certification every year.

During the Red Cross seminars taught by the knowledgeable and experienced Raul Panis, I am always reminded of how much our lives depend on our ability to breathe.

You can live for days without water and weeks without food, but you cannot survive more than four to six minutes without air.

The air you breathe contains about 20 percent oxygen, 79 percent nitrogen, and traces of other gases. Your body only uses five percent of this oxygen every time you take a breath. Your exhaled breath contains 15 percent oxygen, which is why you have enough oxygen to supply this vital gas to another person through mouth-to-mouth respiration.

You take your first breath when you are born and your last when you die. In between, you will breathe about 25,000 times a day.

Breathing is such an essential part of life that we take it for granted. It happens spontaneously and naturally and yet many people do not breathe properly.

Experts say this may be due to a sedentary lifestyle, poor posture, stress and pollution. Bad habits like shallow breathing high up in the chest can become so ingrained people are not even aware they are not using their lungs the way they should.

Luckily, breathing is a body function that is both unconscious and conscious. When you put your mind to it, you can control the way you breathe and learn how to breathe right. You can also use your breath to control your emotions and relieve stress.

When you are feeling stressed or angry, your breathing tends to become rapid and shallow. This is part of the flight-or-fight response to stress. This is useful if you are truly going to fight or flee for your life.

But if your stress is chronic, this type of breathing is no longer beneficial. It can cause fatigue, headaches, listlessness and mental sluggishness.

By consciously slowing down your breath whenever you feel anxious, you can calm down your mind and your emotions. Slow, deep breathing is the direct opposite of your body's breathing response to stress. That's the rationale behind that old piece of advice, "Take a deep breath."

Mind-body disciplines like yoga, Tai Chi, Chi Kung, Pilates, and the martial arts use the breath as a "bridge" to connect the mind and the body. When breathing is relaxed, the mind and the body are also relaxed.

Your breath and your emotions are so intertwined that you can purposely make yourself feel agitated by consciously taking rapid and shallow breaths.

The next time you feel stressed out, take a few minutes to calm down by doing a simple breathing exercise. It's free, it's convenient, and it works.

- Sit or lie down quietly.
- Inhale through your nose as you allow your belly to inflate.
- Exhale through your nose or mouth as you feel your belly deflate.
- Inhale and exhale for 3-5 counts.
- Focusing on the movement in your abdomen and the sound of your exhalation will make you even more relaxed.
- Do this for 5-10 minutes.

Healthy lungs

The best thing you can do for your lungs is not smoke. A person with advanced emphysema is a pitiful sight. Every movement is an effort, every breath a struggle.

Regular aerobic exercise like walking, cycling or swimming is one way to keep your lungs, heart, and blood vessels working in tip-top shape.

The food you eat plays a major role in keeping your lungs healthy. Research found that orange, red, green, and yellow fruits and vegetables containing the antioxidants lutein and zeaxanthin were highly beneficial to the lungs.

One study even found that the difference between smokers who developed emphysema and those who did not was a high intake of these fruits and vegetables.

The old adage "an apple a day" may be right on the mark when it comes to lung health. Based on several studies, researchers speculate that quercetin, a bioflavonoid in apples, offers cellular protection against damage caused by smoking and pollution.

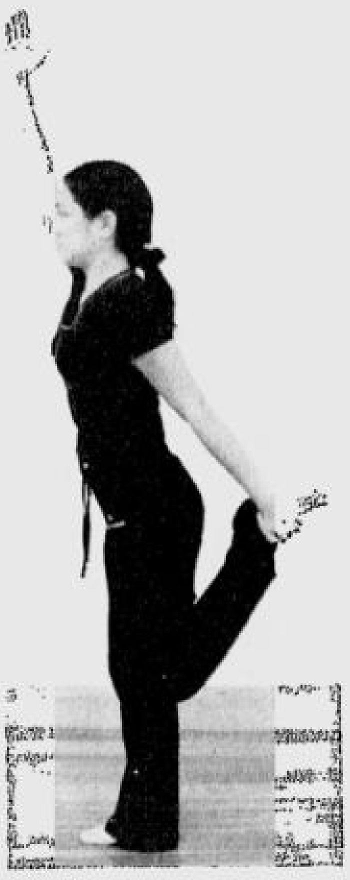
The minerals potassium and magnesium and the essential fatty acid omega-3 also build healthy lungs. Foods high in potassium are oranges, bananas, tomatoes, beans, and squash.

Magnesium is found in dark green leafy vegetables, nuts, seeds, and whole grains. Oily fish like sardines, salmon, mackerel, and tuna are rich in omega-3. Other sources are flaxseed and walnuts.

Visit www.tinajuanfitness.info

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

Standing quadriceps stretch



STRETCHES THE front of the thighs and hips; also develops a good sense of balance

Equipment:
None

Exercise technique:

1. Stand with your legs shoulder-width apart.
2. Bend your right knee backward. Reach behind with your right hand and hold your ankle or foot.
3. Raise your left arm in front of you or above you for balance.
4. Avoid pulling your heel toward your buttocks. Instead, press your hip forward.
5. Hold for 10 seconds.
6. Repeat on the other leg.

Performance tips:

1. Increase the stretch by pressing hip joint forward rather than pulling on the heel.
2. Maintain proper posture all throughout the exercise.
3. Hold the stretch but keep breathing.
4. If balance is an issue, hold on lightly to the back of a chair or the wall.

PSBank
Home RATE PROTECT

Bring down your
home loan payments with
PSBank's ROCK-BOTTOM RATES!

Fixing Period	Interest Rate*	Monthly Amortization**
1 - year	10.25 %	P 9,817
2 - year	11.00 %	P10,322
3 - year	11.25 %	P10,493
5 - year	11.50 %	P10,665

* Rates apply only for new loan releases where purpose is acquisition, construction or refinancing. Rates are subject to change without prior notice.
** For every loan amount of P1,000,000 with a 20-year loan term.

Apply at any PSBank branch nationwide.
For more information, call 885-8212,
885-8208 loc. 8407, 8409 or 8411
or text PSBANK HOME AD
<your name> <landline nos.> <e-mail address>
to 2327 for Globe users & 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.

Something for everyone at wellness fest

TO CELEBRATE AND PROMOTE HEALTHY lifestyle options, Bantay Kalikasan, one of the key programs of the ABS-CBN Foundation, is holding The Family Wellness Festival: Live, Learn and Love on Nov. 12-13 at the La Mesa Ecopark at the East Fairview Subdivision, Commonwealth Ave. (La Mesa Dam Compound), QC. Proceeds of this event will benefit the ongoing reforestation of the La Mesa Dam's Watershed.

The festival will feature a variety of activities for health enthusiasts of all ages: a wellness bazaar with products ranging from body and beauty products, organic and natural wares; lecture and workshops on tai chi, yoga and the like; educational animal shows; sporting events including wall-climbing, aerial challenges and other games; and a display of camping, gardening and fishing tools.

Guests can also relax and rejuvenate themselves with massage therapies available during the festival, from *hilot* to reflexology or even shiatsu. In line with the theme of the event, a delightful Healthy Cuisine Festival featuring top health food names is guaranteed to tickle taste buds without the guilt.

Another first will be an open-air Jazz Festival at the La Mesa ampitheater. The two-day affair will have world-class performers like Mitch Valdez, Verni Varga, Bituin Escalante and Mon David for the first night, and Neo-Ethnic Artists such as Joey Ayala, Grace Nono, Pinikpikan and Pangkat Kawayan on the second day.

Entry to the Wellness Festival also includes the use of La Mesa Ecopark's amenities like the Salt Water Pool, The Orchidarium, the Boating Lagoon, Jogging and Biking Trails, the Fishing Wharf, Picnic Grounds and a Flower Terrace.

Ticket prices are P500 for the Jazz Festival and Neo-Ethnic Music Festival with a two-day pass to the Wellness Festival, or at P150 for just the Neo-Ethnic Music Festival plus a two-day pass. Call the Bantay Kalikasan office at 4152227 or 4109670 for ticket reservations and other inquiries.

ECOTRAIL at La Mesa Ecopark, site of forthcoming Family Wellness Festival

Wade into a new shoe experience

CONVERSE IS REINTRODUCING ITSELF AS A leader in performance basketball by unveiling on Nov. 3 an all-new signature shoe for one of the most notable up-and-coming stars of the American National Basketball Association.

The Wade Signature Shoe was inspired by Miami Heat guard Dwyane Wade's clean-cut but dynamic skills on court.

Jack Boys, Converse chief executive officer, said Wade had proven to be an important partner in re-establishing Converse basketball.

The brand considered Wade the embodiment of the values of The First School of Basketball, representing every athlete's ability to reach his full potential.

The Japanese proverb "fall seven times; stand up eight" captured the way Wade played and the way he lived.

The player will be actively involved in the design of footwear, apparel and equipment for America's first basketball brand.

On the Wade Signature Shoe, designer Duane Lawrence said the shoe had to capture the aggressiveness of its namesake but still stay sleek.

The shoe has mesh windows made to resemble shark gills that let the feet breathe. Wade's game-winning shots against Utah and New York with eight seconds left on the clock gave Lawrence the idea to add a shot clock detail inside the shoe.

The limited-edition Wade Signature Shoe is available in black and red and blue and yellow colors. In the Philippines, only 400 pairs will be available in stores and athletic goods shops.

Converse's position as The First School of Basketball began even before professional basketball was established. Starting with the Chuck Taylor All Star shoe in 1923, Converse led with footwear innovations that defined eras and contributed to the evolution of the game.

WADE Signature Shoe, inspired by its namesake's dynamic skills on court

DWYANE Wade